

HOME NEWS

Release of detained Provisional IRA suspects to go on but PC's murder will affect number

From Christopher Walker Belfast

Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, demonstrated clearly yesterday that the Government's policy remains a key feature of the Government's Ulster policy. In the face of mounting anger among "loyalist" politicians and private criticism from some of his military advisers, Mr Rees announced that he plans to continue to release Provisional IRA suspects from the Maze prison, Long Kesh.

His decision comes after the murder of a young police constable in Londonderry on Saturday, the worst single outrage committed by the Provisionals since the ceasefire was declared on February 10.

But Mr Rees made plain that because of the killing, which he described as brutal, callous and premeditated, the rate of releases was likely to drop substantially. But that was not enough to satisfy members of the loyalist coalition, who describe his policy as blatant appeasement of the Provisionals.

Mr Rees said yesterday that 247 detainees had been released since December 22 and no interim custody orders had been signed since February 9.

The Government's objectives during this period have been to take advantage of the Provisional IRA's ceasefire in an endeavour to set Northern Ireland back on a course towards normal life. This endeavour will continue because this is the only policy which offers a way forward.

Mr Rees emphasized that the shooting of Constable Paul Gray was bound "to slow down the rate at which progress can be made". There seems little chance that the Maze will be emptied by October, the date that seemed likely had the old rate of release been maintained.

Apart from the serious security implications, the murder has embarrassed Mr Rees. Many of his decisions about releases have been governed by the assumption that Londonderry was the area where the ceasefire was strongest and any change in attitude most marked. As a result, a high proportion of the men freed recently have come from there.

I understand that only 21 suspected members of the Londonderry Brigade of the Provisional IRA remain among the 304 detainees held there.

Shot broker 'a victim of IRA killer squad'

Army intelligence officers are satisfied that Mr Allan Quartermaine, an insurance broker, who was shot when his company car stopped at traffic lights in Chelsea last November, was the victim of an IRA assassination squad.

But they have been unable to find conclusive evidence that Mr Quartermaine was killed because he "froze" a £750,000 deal on suspicion that at some stage it involved the IRA.

A Westminster coroner's jury yesterday returned a verdict of murder by person or persons unknown on Mr Quartermaine, aged 58, of Rivermead Court, Ranelagh Gardens, Fulham, London.

Police investigations were transferred to Scotland Yard's bomb squad after ballistic experts had linked the bullet that killed Mr Quartermaine with shots fired after an explosion at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly, a month later.

There was evidence of a carefully prepared assassination plan.

Mr Ernest Dunham, a chauffeur, who was driving Mr Quartermaine home, told the inquest that he heard a bang and saw smoke outside the car and two holes in the nearby quarter light. Mr Quartermaine was fighting for his breath. He was still sitting in an upright position.

Mr Sunny A'dekoya, a mini cab driver, saw a man get out of a Fiat running down King's Road.



Mr Elliot Richardson, the American Ambassador (left), and Mr Jack Ashley, MP, examining telephone equipment for the deaf at an American telecommunications exhibition in London yesterday.

Nationalist call for Scottish oil corporation

By Penny Symon Political Staff

The Scottish National Party should set up four oil corporations, one each for Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland, so that Scottish oil under the control of a Scottish oil corporation.

Mr Gordon Wilson, Scottish nationalist MP for Dundee East and the party's spokesman on oil and energy, has been appointed to a Commons standing committee to consider the Petroleum and Submarine Pipe-lines Bill. He said yesterday that his party would challenge the Government.

In an early series of statements to clauses 1 to 16 of the bill, we are proposing the setting up of the four oil corporations, he said. "The existence of separate nationalized industries for Scotland, particularly in relation to energy, is not a new idea. It has been a feature of Scottish Gas Board and still is the South of Scotland Electric Board and the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board."

All four parties on the committee supported the establishment of the Scottish Assembly and three out of four support all or a proportion of revenues, including the profit of the oil corporation, going to Scotland.

"We demand that Scottish be under the control of a Scottish oil corporation," said Mr Wilson. "If the Government's oil budget from the British National Oil Corporation is sure to run into early years from the Scottish Assembly, it is a year's annual conference of the Scottish National Party will be the biggest and the most thing," the party has ever had. Mrs Rosemary Hall, the party's national secretary, said at a press conference in Edinburgh yesterday (our Edinburgh correspondent writes).

She said a record number 231 resolutions had been passed for the conference from May 29 to 31, that total 67 had been selected for discussion by the 1, delegates.

Prowler attacked mother of murdered boy

A man found the body of his son, aged five, last night some hours after his wife had been attacked by a prowler. Wiltshire police said yesterday. A fortnight earlier she had had three anonymous telephone calls from a man.

Det. Chief Supt Harry Hull, head of Wiltshire CID, who is seeking the boy's killer, said Mrs Denise Harris, aged 22, was attacked by a man at her home in Forsey Close, Covingham, Swindon, on Friday morning.

At 8 am her eldest son Simon, aged five, told her that Sean Robert, aged 25, who was on night shift when the attack occurred, went looking for him and found the body in the dustbin.

Mr Hull described Mrs Harris's attacker as of medium build, aged between 25 and 30.

Councils and ministers meet in happy atmosphere

By Christopher Warman Local Government Correspondent

The first meeting of the consultation council on local government finance between central and local government officials was held in London yesterday.

Mr Cragland, Secretary of State for the Environment, who was chairman of the meeting, described it afterwards as a major breakthrough in relations between the Government and local authorities, a feeling happily echoed by representatives of the local authority associations present.

The meeting was attended by ministers from other departments, including Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, and representatives of the associations of metropolitan authorities, of county councils, and of district councils, the Greater London Council, and the London Boroughs' Association.

The two-hour discussion concentrated on procedural arrangements for the new council. The council consolidates arrangements that already exist and it is hoped that it will ensure that consultation between the Government and representatives of local authorities will be more frequent and more broadly based.

The rate-support grant negotiations will run in parallel, and it is likely that they will merge with the work of the council towards the end of the year cycle when the negotiations are concluded.

Sir Robert Thomas, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said yesterday's meeting had gone very well. "The amount of cooperation offered to us was quite surprising," he said. "Whitehall has opened its doors to us."

Shot by warder

John Lynes, aged 35, a prison officer, of Waverley Drive, Chelmsford, Essex, was jailed for five years after pleading guilty to rape and attempted rape.

Mr Lynes was charged with the rape of a woman, aged 21, who was in his custody at the prison.

Newspaper union may intensify disruption

By Our Labour Staff

Industrial action by the two unions prevented publication yesterday of an evening newspaper, the Portsmouth News.

"Telegraph" publication interrupted: Production of early editions of the Daily Telegraph in London was interrupted on Sunday night by unofficial industrial action by some members of the National Graphical Association, one of the two printing unions involved.

Two unions, the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel and the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, have accepted a 32 per cent pay offer from the Newspaper Society, representing provincial newspaper managements, and the British Printing Industries Federation, representing general printing companies.

The NGA and the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers are demanding a better offer. Mr Joe Wade, assistant general secretary of the NGA, said last night that in view of the lack of response from the employers the executive might decide to intensify the action.

The association was prevented from striking except by ballot of the members, he added, but stepping up the present ban on overtime and flexibility arrangements might affect printing severely.

Inquiry plea on children in hospital

By Our Social Services Correspondent

A government inquiry into the plight of more than eight thousand mentally and physically handicapped children in long-stay hospitals was demanded yesterday in a pamphlet published by the Council of Children's Welfare. Such hospitals were "the last bastions of Victorian institutionalization", totally unfit for providing proper care and education for children, it said.

Children in long-stay hospitals were growing up, deprived of the fundamental rights provided through successive Children's Acts for children in care of local authorities. They lacked mothering, suffered constant changes of staff, and were subjected to bizarre practices, such as using pots sitting in a row, being put to bed at 4.30 in the afternoon, and being denied any personal possessions including clothing.

The pamphlet has been compiled from evidence presented to the committee of inquiry into child health services, under the chairmanship of Professor Donald Court. It said that a new inquiry was needed because the present inquiry was bound by a broad brief of inquiry which would not allow it to give enough attention to that minority group.

The pamphlet attributed many of the difficulties to the emphasis on community care in the reorganised health service. That had effectively stopped any more specialist units being built for handicapped children within hospitals.

Local authority social services departments should have more responsibility for the day-to-day care of children in hospitals, it was suggested. Smaller inpatient units should be established to care for the most severely handicapped and disturbed.

No Child's (Council for Children's Welfare, 133/185 Finchley Road, London, NW3, 50p).

You have more to give the future than you may think

A bequest to Help the Aged can continue your goodwill for many generations, by providing day centres and other practical help to the desperately lonely and needy all over the world.

It means that old folk struggling alone against dismal housing conditions and hunger are given a new lease of life and find friendship and help.

No Gift Tax is payable on legacies to charity up to a total of £100,000, and a large estate can actually save considerable duty.

For full information write to:

The Hon. Treasurer, the Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T15, 8 Denman Street, London W1A 2AP.

£150 inscribes a name on the Founder's Plaque of a new Day Centre or names a hospital bed overseas.

Churches frown on radio and television betting

By a Staff Reporter

Broadcasting authorities should not help to stimulate betting, the Churches' Council on Gambling says in evidence to the Committee on the Future of Broadcasting. It draws attention to the "ITV Seven", and BBC "Triella" bets.

Opposing a "tipster" service on radio or television, the council says it has had its attention drawn to Mr Terry Wogan's daily practice of naming "Wogan's winner", a horse due to race that day.

But the general ethos of the programme prevents the council from suggesting that that constitutes a serious incitement to gamble. "In any case, the number of times that the winner is announced that the 'winner' of yesterday was a loser may discourage people from gambling."

Luxurious rail ride

British Rail's Midland Region yesterday introduced luxurious streamlined passenger coaches on the London to Liverpool route similar to those being used on the high-speed train route from London to Bristol.

Patient recaptured

Roland Maurice Scargill, aged 45, a former boxer who absconded on an outing from Rampton Hospital, Nottinghamshire, on Saturday was recaptured yesterday while on his way back to the hospital to give himself up.

Boy on murder charge

A boy aged 15 was remanded in custody by a juvenile court at Peterborough yesterday accused of murdering Mrs Veronica Dorothy Wright, aged 57, a widow, whose body was found in her council flat on Sunday morning.

Sit-in stops examinations

Students of Warwick University at Coventry were told yesterday by the university that examinations were being postponed because of the occupation of the senate building which began three weeks ago.

The senate has, however, agreed to discuss with student union delegates the level student rents next year. If it can be persuaded to consider this year's rents, the students say the occupation might be lifted.

Indian deported

Mr Ernest Bahurdurji M eekshana, an Indian hospital porter, was deported yesterday after a petition by more than two hundred workers at St. Hospital, Reading, had failed to keep him in Britain. He arrived in 1970 on a visitor's visa.

50 years' service

Mrs Jessie Pearce, aged 81, is retiring on June 8, when she completes 50 years as a postmistress. It is not known whether anyone will replace her at the thatched sub-postoffice Coate, near Devizes, Wiltshire.

Ban on drink drivers 'useful and valid'

By Our Legal Correspondent

Motocyclists disqualified from driving after conviction for drinking-and-driving offences are four times more likely to adhere to the ban than those disqualified for taking a car without authority or for not possessing the correct documents.

That is stated by Home Office research unit investigating disqualified drivers. Its report is published today. It concludes that the penalty of disqualification is useful and valid for convicted drink-and-drive offenders. It also serves a purpose in punishing drivers convicted of driving while already under a previous disqualification.

It is least useful, however, as a penalty for drivers whose driving ability is not in doubt. In such cases it stands the greatest chance of being breached.

The unit analysed samples of disqualified drivers in 1971. Among its other findings was that drivers disqualified again after being convicted of driving while disqualified were younger, had more previous motoring convictions, and were more likely to have a criminal record other than for driving offences.

'Pick Stonehouse replacement', local party told

By Our Political Staff

Labour Party headquarters yesterday told Walsall, North, Labour Party to set in motion procedures for selecting a new Labour candidate.

The action was taken by Mr Reginald Underhill, national agent, in view of the select committee's report recommending that the sooner he gave up as Prime Minister the better.

"His rambling weekend broadcast failed to measure up to the urgent needs of the nation; and proved only that our present leader is losing, or has lost, his grip."

Mr Griffiths, who was speaking to the Anglo-Polish Conservative Society last night, said that none of Britain's most pressing dangers had in any way been lessened by Mr Wilson's intervention.

The time had come for patriotic Labour MPs to face Mr Wilson and tell him the unvarnished truth; "for all practical purposes he is finished... he is simply not up to the job."

There was still time, Mr Griffiths said, to convert the referendum on June 5 into a general election.

Parliamentary report, page 6.

Tory MPs seek action to restore confidence

Continued from page 1

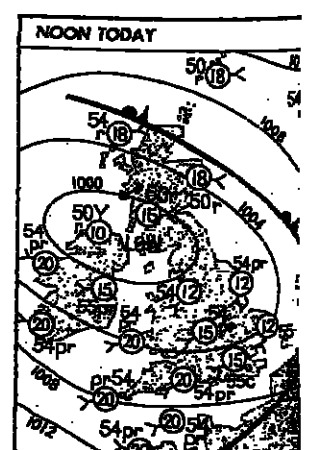
reflected the disappointment and even dismay of politicians in all parties about Mr Wilson's failure to give a strong national lead in his television and radio broadcasts.

It was being noted that he had been firmly negative but only vaguely positive. Any suggestion of a coalition government was peremptorily dismissed, and he closed his options about any possible resort in a balance of payments crisis to import controls.

Constructively, he did no more than fly a kite about the possibility of a concordat between Government, TUC, CBI, and other "useful" persons to arrive at a pre-Budget consensus on the nation's total income and how it should be divided between government spending and individual incomes.

There is concern on both sides of the Commons that Mr Wilson should have appeared to be content with suspending essential decisions until after the EEC referendum on June 5.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 5.13 am. Sun sets: 8.42 pm.
Moon rises: 6.39 am. Moon sets: 11.8 pm.

First Quarter: May 18.

Lighting up: 9.12 pm to 4.41 am.

High water: London Bridge, 2.46 am, 7.0m (23.1ft); 4.7 pm, 7.1m (23.3ft).
Avonmouth, 9.26 am, 12.8m (41.9ft); 9.40 pm, 12.9m (42.3ft).
Dover 12.48 am, 6.3m (20.6ft).
Hull, 8.10 am, 7.0m (23.0ft); 8.34 pm, 6.9m (22.6ft).
Liverpool, 1.2 am, 9.0m (29.5ft); 1.22 pm, 8.9m (29.3ft).

A depression will move slowly over N Ireland.

Area forecasts:
London, SE, E, Central S, Central N England, East Anglia, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny spells, occasional drizzle; max temp 15°C (59°F).
SW, light or moderate; max temp 16°C (61°F).

SW and NW England, Wales, Lake District: Sunny spells and showers, heavy at times; wind light or moderate; max temp 13°C (55°F).

Ile of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Some bright intervals; wind light, variable; max temp 12°C (54°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and E Scotland, Aberdeen: Sunny spells and showers, perhaps longer outbreaks of rain; wind S, light; max temp 11°C (52°F).

Central Highlands, NW Scotland: Dull with occasional rain and extensive hill fog; wind E, moderate; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Orkney and Shetland: Cloudy occasional rain, bright intervals; wind E moderate or fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Rather cloudy with showers, prolonged at times; bright intervals; temp near normal.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 7 am, 14°C (57°F); min, 7 pm, 7°C (45°F). Humidity: 78 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 0.05in. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm 1. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1.014mbars, falling. 1,000 mbars = 29.53in.

At the resorts

24 hours to 6 pm, May 12

Station	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Scarborough	11	12	15
Blackpool	11	12	15
Widnes	11	12	15
Warrington	11	12	15
Brighton	11	12	15
Eastbourne	11	12	15
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Some people can't believe it takes two weeks to appreciate Silk Cut cigarettes.



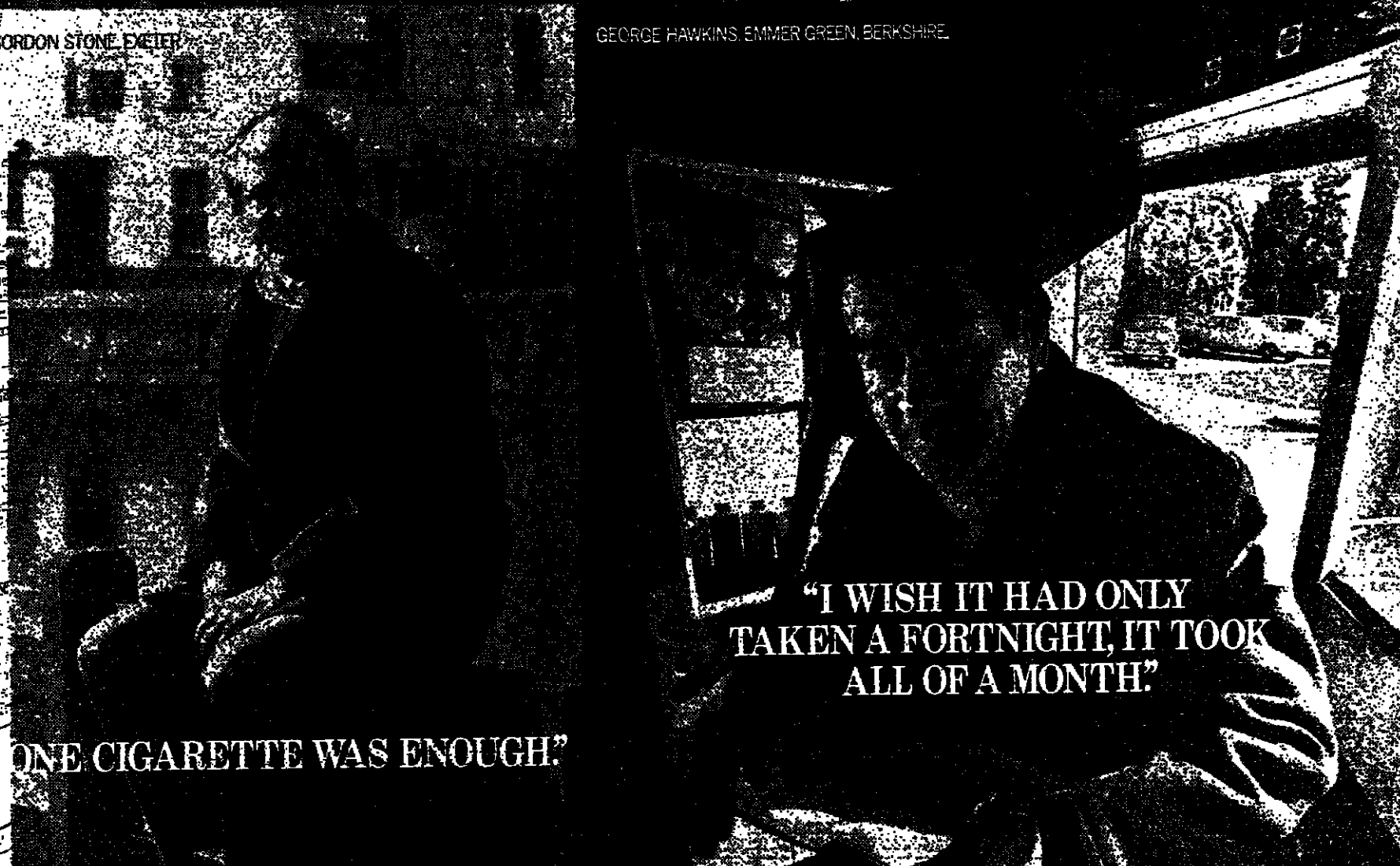
LIAM AND MARY TARR, CARDIFF

"WE WERE PREPARED TO STICK AT IT FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS BUT IT ONLY TOOK TWO PACKETS."



PAULINE HOWARD, NOTTINGHAM

"LED THEM FROM THE WORD GOT"



GEORGE HAWKINS, EMMER GREEN, BERKSHIRE

"I WISH IT HAD ONLY TAKEN A FORTNIGHT, IT TOOK ALL OF A MONTH."

ONE CIGARETTE WAS ENOUGH?"



ALBERT FISHER, LONDON

"ME THAT LON"



BILL AND EUNOR MILLER, GLASGOW

"IT TOOK THE WIFE A COUPLE OF DAYS BUT I'M STILL TRYING."

"AT LEAST THREE WEEKS."

We've always advised new Silk Cut smokers to try our cigarette for at least a fortnight.

A couple of weeks, we felt, was about how long it took to appreciate Silk Cut's mild taste.

Particularly after some stronger cigarettes.

Recently, though, we met a number of smokers who thought this advice misleading.

In their opinion two weeks was wrong.

Not only did they disagree with us, they also disagreed with each other.

Many, like Mrs. Howard of Nottingham, reckoned it took a lot less than two weeks to get used to our cigarette.

While others, like Mr. Hawkins of Emmer Green, considered two weeks not nearly enough.

All our smokers, you'll be pleased to hear, were in harmony on one point however:

That it's worth acquiring a taste for Silk Cut.

Whether it takes days, weeks, or, perish the thought, months.

Silk Cut. The mild cigarette.

The Silk Cut range: Silk Cut Regular, King Size, Number 1, Number 2, and 1 & 2 Mils.

LOW TAR As defined by H.M. Government
EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

HOME NEWS

Flixborough disaster caused by failure of pipe installed as 'rush job', court of inquiry finds

By Neville Hodgkinson

The Flixborough chemical works disaster last June was caused by the failure of a large temporary pipe installed as a "rush job" about two months earlier in what was originally a well designed and well built plant.

That is the main conclusion of a court of inquiry set up by the Secretary of State for Employment to investigate the causes and circumstances of the disaster and to advise on immediate lessons to be learnt.

An alternative theory on the cause of the explosion, raising questions of fundamental design safety that would have a bearing on the design of other plants, has been rejected by the court as being founded on a long sequence of improbabilities and coincidences.

That theory was that the temporary pipe assembly failed as a result of a small external explosion caused by the rupture of a smaller permanent pipe.

But the report, published yesterday, does make some general recommendations on safety within the chemical industry. One of the most important is that the possibility of incorporating what it calls "second-chance design" should be considered.

The explosion at 4.33 pm on Saturday, June 1, 1974, killed 28 people, injured 36 others, and virtually demolished plant of Nypro (UK) Ltd. The court says the explosion was caused by a failure of a 20-inch diameter pipe, which was installed as a by-pass linking two reactors after one had been removed because of a leak. The pipe was normally a series of six reactors, in which oxidation of cyclohexane was carried out. The pipe was made of cast iron, and was installed as a by-pass linking two reactors after one had been removed because of a leak. The pipe was normally a series of six reactors, in which oxidation of cyclohexane was carried out.

The report says the fact that the pipe was made of cast iron was not appreciated by anyone at Nypro. As a result, there was no proper consideration of the need for support, no safety testing, no reference to the relevant British standards. The pipe was joined to reactors each side by expansion bellows, but no reference was made to the design of the bellows. The report says: "We entirely absolve all persons from any suggestion that their failure to resume production caused them knowingly to embark on a hazardous course in disregard of the safety of those operating the works."

It was this desire which led them to overlook the fact that it was

potentially hazardous to resume production without examining the remaining reactor and ascertaining the cause of the failure of the fifth reactor.

We have equally no doubt that the failure to appreciate that the connection of reactor number four to reactor number six involved engineering problems was largely due to the same desire.

The report says that as a result of the omissions which were admitted by Nypro early in the inquiry, the by-pass assembly was liable to rupture at pressures well below the level set for the safety valves and at or below the operating temperature for the section.

The report continues: "The integrity of a well designed and constructed plant was thereby destroyed and, although no one was aware of it, disaster might have occurred at any time thereafter."

The court says the blame must be shared between many individuals and below, but emphasises that no blame attaches to the people who made and installed the pipe. They carried out a task which they had been asked to do, properly and carefully.

On June 1, the assembly was subjected to greater pressure and temperature than before. But no higher than the plant operators could, and the report says: "Nevertheless (the report says) the conditions were such as to cause a failure of the pipe. Large quantities of cyclohexane were released, mixing with air to form a vapour cloud, which exploded."

The report adds: "We accordingly conclude that the disaster resulted from a one-stage failure of the 20-inch assembly. Summarising its view on the cause of the disaster, the court says: "The explosion was caused by the failure of a 20-inch diameter pipe, which was installed as a by-pass linking two reactors after one had been removed because of a leak. The pipe was normally a series of six reactors, in which oxidation of cyclohexane was carried out."

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The jack-knifed 20in pipe, showing trapped aluminium cladding and charred wood.

including those on the shop floor and their union. At no point in the inquiry was there any evidence that the chemical industry, or Nypro in particular, could limit the amount of hazardous material released, were suggested to the court.

In certain cases such devices might be appropriate, but others might be inappropriate. The report says: "The report makes several references to management structure inadequacies at Nypro and the fact that technical decisions were taken by people who unwittingly were not qualified to take them."

On the integrity of plant, it recommends that any modification should be designed, constructed, tested and maintained to the same standards as the original plant, and that all pressure systems containing hazardous substances should be inspected by a person recognized as competent after any modification.

Existing regulations relating to modification of steam boilers should be extended to apply to such systems, and the British Standard on pressure-testing of pipe-work should be clarified to remove ambiguity.

At Nypro, safety depended largely on an adequate supply of nitrogen, but routine procedures were interrupted when it was scarce. All plants whose safety relies on nitrogen should have ample supplies to cover all contingencies, the court says.

It urges that the chemical industry should be made aware of metallurgical phenomena on which the court's investigations cast light, and points to a scarcity of information concerning explosions of unconfined vapour clouds such as that at Flixborough.

The four members of the court were: Mr Roger Parker, QC, chairman; Dr Joseph P. V. Chatterjee, Director of Aston University; Mr John Davidson, Reader in Chemical Engineering at Cambridge University; and Mr William Wilson, QC, who was appointed to the court as head of the foundations section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, and is now chairman of the Health and Safety Commission.

The Flixborough Disaster: Report of the Court of Inquiry (Stationery Office, £2.50).

Leading article, page 15

Agreement reached in Wilson libel case

A libel action brought by the Prime Minister over two newspaper articles concerning land deals ended in agreement in the High Court yesterday. Mr Wilson was not in court when Mr Peter Bowsher told Mr Justice Park that Mr Wilson had brought the action solely with a view to clearing his reputation.

Mr Bowsher said that in the issues of the Daily Express on April 3 and 6, 1974, there appeared lead reports headed "Wilson man in land deal row" and "Wilson met land dealers: Commons office used for talks". Mr Wilson took the view that the stories suggested that he had participated in dealings involving land speculation and thereby obtained excessive profits, and that he knew and approved of the alleged use of his name to further such dealings.

Beaverbrook Newspapers Ltd had always denied any intention making any such allegation, Mr Bowsher said. "But they recognize that the articles in question might possibly have been understood to bear meanings of the kind of which Mr Wilson complains." There was, in fact, no ground for any such suggestion.

The second headline related to a chance meeting with two surveyors in a corridor of the House of Commons when Mr Wilson was introduced to a group of workers by Anthony Field, a member of his staff. A conversation followed between Mr Wilson and one of the surveyors, limited to the subject of golf.

As the newspaper publishers had signified their willingness to join in the making of the agreement in open court, Mr Wilson was content to let the matter rest.

Mr John Previt, for Beaverbrook Newspapers, said they had only intended to state, as a fact, that Mr Field was engaged in land dealings and that he had, on occasions, used the facilities of Mr Wilson's office for that purpose.

"In fairness, it should be said that the second article expressly stated that Mr Wilson had no connection with the dealings in question," Mr Previt added.

The judge granted Mr Bowsher's application for the record of Mr Wilson's action against Beaverbrook Newspapers to be withdrawn.

Subject of costs: A staff reporter writes: Although, unusually, the question of costs was not mentioned in the agreed statement settling the action, it is understood that Mr Wilson will be paying his own costs.

Birmingham bombing trial for Lancaster

Six Irishmen charged with the murder of all 21 victims of the Birmingham public house bombings last year and three others charged with conspiracy are to be tried at Lancaster Crown Court.

At Birmingham Crown Court yesterday, Mr Justice Bridge granted a defence application for the trial to be moved from Birmingham. He said: "I think there is a real danger that justice will not be seen to be done if the trial is in Birmingham."

"I cannot escape from the conclusion that these accused might, even if it be contrary to the fact, that a Birmingham jury would be unable to bring to their trial that degree of detachment that is necessary to reach a dispassionate and objective verdict."

The accused are: Hugh Callaghan, aged 44, unemployed; Patrick Hill, aged 30, unemployed; Robert Hunter, aged 28, unemployed; Michael McIlrath, aged 31, a millwright's mate; William Power, aged 29, unemployed; John Walker, aged 27, a crane driver; James Kelly, aged 32, Michael Sheehan, aged 47, a machinist; and Michael Murray, aged 38.

Mr Callaghan, Mr Hill, Mr Hunter, Mr McIlrath, Mr Power, and Mr Walker are charged with the murder of the 21 victims of the explosions in the Mulberry Bush and the Revolver in the Town in November and with causing explosions in the two public houses. All nine are charged with conspiracy to murder.

Making the application on behalf of the six men charged with murder, Mr John Field Evans, QC, said: "The public danger in Birmingham which followed the bombings had shown itself in dramatic form. After the men's arrest, the public danger had been removed and their homes threatened."

Potential jurors might have been influenced by strong feelings about the case, and it might make it more difficult for them to acquit even if they thought it right.

The judge granted Mr Evans' application. The decision to hold the trial at Lancaster was regarded in the ancient city yesterday as a relief.

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Admission to prison of 1966 murder alleged

From Our Correspondent, Chester

The skeleton of Jane Farrow, aged 10, was found in a warehouse at Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd, six years after her disappearance, and three years after her murder, it was stated at Chester Crown Court yesterday.

William Ian Copeland, aged 33, a farm labourer of Arundel, Sussex, pleaded not guilty to the murder of the girl, of 10, low Avenue, Moberley, Cheshire.

Mr Elinor Roberts, QC, for the prosecution, said that the skeleton was found in a warehouse, aged nine, found in the wood and a skeleton was uncovered. It was impossible to tell the cause of death.

A signet ring it had belonged to the child.

Mr Roberts said that six years before the body was found Mr Copeland, while living a sentence in Parkhurst Prison, Isle of Wight, met Mr Farrow, with whom he had been in a relationship, after a conversation with Mr Copeland by a friend, "Jane Taylor" on the day of Mr Copeland's machine the prison tailoring shop.

Next day, Mr Copeland, who was in the prison, told Mr Farrow that he had done her but I did not mean I saw her cycling and stopped in front of her. As she passed, she threw a length of rope over the fence and dragged her off the bike.

Mr Roberts said that Mr Copeland did not until four years later, when Mr Farrow told a police officer, Mr Copeland was arrested at Arundel.

The trial was halted when a juror admitted to Mr Justice Mac Jones that, during a lunch-break, he told a woman, who he knew the name of, of a main prosecution witness. The judge discharged the jury and said the trial would have to start again today.

Union 'resents' attacks on Mr Benn

From Tim Jones, Labour Staff, Brighton

The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs gave strong support to Mr Wedgwood Benn at its conference in Brighton yesterday. It made clear that if Mr Wilson regards his minister as a prophet without a beard the union looks upon him more as a Messiah.

Mr Clive Jenkins, the union's general secretary, moving an emergency motion submitted by the national executive committee, said it noted that the union's attack being made on the Secretary of State

for industry by the media, spokesmen of the employers and certain heads of publicly owned industry.

Mr Jenkins reserved his most scathing criticism for the press. We warn the proprietors now, behave as civilized members of our community and stop this character assassination or you will be called even sooner than might have happened by the passing of history to account for your stewardship of these organs of propaganda.

Debate in our country should be conducted at a civilized level: the present conduct of the press, particularly certain newspapers at the moment, is illegitimate and it is the duty of the whole question not of censorship of the

press but whether it is any longer adequate in a modern society to great engines of propaganda to be in the hands of individual proprietors.

Mr Jenkins said he was talking about *The Sun*, Mr Rupert Murdoch, the *Daily Mail* and the *Daily Express* which carried a picture of Mr Benn over a picture of a Hitler and a rache and forelock. He added: "We do not want to censor anyone but we must demand that people have self-censorship when it comes to civility and decent behaviour."

The motion, which asserted that Mr Benn's recent action "have demonstrated a new progressive policy which is essential for the maintenance and future health of British industry and job security", was carried.

Standstill would do real damage, Nalco chief says

By Our Labour Editor

A standstill on local government expenditure of the kind the Government appears to be advocating would do "real damage" to basic services such as housing and education, the National and Local Government Officers Association (Nalco) said yesterday.

Criticizing the failure of Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, to consult the unions before making his announcement in Manchester last week that "the party is over" in local government spending, Mr Geoffrey Drain, Nalco's general secretary, said: "Our members are wondering when

the party ever began. There is a national staff shortage of 10 per cent in local government which is a real struggle to keep essential services going. If Mr Crosland means that we are to have a standstill now, he must mean that anyone, should know that this means real damage to many existing services, and I am not speaking of so-called prestige projects but of basic services."

Mr Crosland should be more ready to consult those working in local government. I am seriously concerned at the lack of effective consultation and I contend that government policy in relation to local government would be better if it were based on a consultation with those concerned were properly involved.

Multiple sclerosis

please help to find the cure

The great mystery about Multiple Sclerosis is that despite many years of continuous medical research, no one has yet been able to find the cause. And without knowing the cause, it's impossible to develop a cure or an effective form of treatment.

So those who suddenly contract MS must remain prey to varying forms of disability. In many cases, they become chairbound or bed-ridden; unable to look after themselves and needing help with the simple, everyday things like eating, washing and dressing.

Tragically, it tends to attack younger people—too often those with young children of their own to look after.

Over the last 21 years, we've raised enough money to sponsor medical research to the tune of nearly £1 million—and there's been considerable progress. But so far we still haven't found the cause, let alone the cure.

With your help we might.

There are many ways of giving—a straight donation now; an annual subscription, a legacy; or a deed of covenant which increases what you give by nearly 50%. Or perhaps you could give a little time to your local M.S.S. branch; we'll gladly supply the address and further details if you'll drop us a line.

Just pop your letter or donation in an envelope and address it to:

The Multiple Sclerosis Society, Freeport 119, 4 Tachbrook Street, London SW1V 1SL. No need to stamp it, we pay the post.

Giro number AC 5149225

The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Great Britain & N. Ireland. Registered as a charity in accordance with the National Assistance Act 1948.

Clay Cross 11 to appeal against surcharge

From Our Correspondent, Chesterfield

The 11 rebel rebels at Clay Cross, Derbyshire, have decided to appeal to the High Court against the £52,000 surcharge imposed on them recently. Originally they decided not to appeal but changed their minds after meeting their lawyers in Clay Cross.

Mr Charles Bunting, one of the leading rebels in the former urban district council's fight against the Housing Finance Act, said yesterday that they felt that some allegations made against them needed to be answered.

The new surcharge, which comes after the original £7,000 surcharge imposed for not implementing the Act, was imposed by Mr Herbert Harrison, the district auditor, it refers to money the council councillors are alleged to have overspent without good reason.

It includes bonus stand-by payments to manual workers, extra wages paid to old people's wardens, and £30,000 wages to new workers hired by the council at a time when the auditor says they were not necessary. Bernard Levin, page 14

Racing tipster fined for false statements

From Our Correspondent, Chesterfield

Ronald Henry Buck, aged 49, a racing tipster of Box Close, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, was fined £200 by magistrates at Buxton, Derbyshire, yesterday for making reckless statements in contravention of the Trade Descriptions Act.

Prosser Ltd, of The Broadway, London, which he was codirector, was also fined £100 on two charges. He pleaded guilty.

It was stated that the charges were brought after Derbyshire County Council had inquired into a racing tip service known as Master Professional, which was offered for the first time in 1974. Leaflets and advertising explaining the system indicated wrongly that it had been in operation the previous year.

Woman raped

Hertfordshire police were making house-to-house inquiries yesterday after a single woman aged 56 had been attacked and raped in Norton Way North, Letchworth, on Saturday night.

Job prospects for black people discouraging, report finds

From Arthur Osman, Walsall

Detailed report on black workers in Walsall West Midlands, published yesterday by the Runnymede Trust, shows that their employment prospects are discouraging. The report is considered to have wider implications for large sections of Britain's black population.

In the short term, it was stated, black workers were disproportionately affected by rising unemployment being concentrated in Walsall's manufacturing, particularly the metal trades. It was unlikely that deliberately discriminatory dismissals accounted for much of the increase. But given the choice between able black and white workers many employers preferred to recruit the latter.

Once blacks were unemployed in a recession, as happened in 1971-72 and again in the recession which started late last year, they found it more difficult than whites to get jobs.

Mr Dennis Brooks, the author of the report, entitled *Black Employment in the Black Country: A Study of Walsall*, thought that in the long term many of their jobs were threatened by plant modernization which their presence may have helped to delay.

Mr Adrian Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes Ltd, said in a foreword that the report would make a valuable contribution in any areas where coloured or immigrant workers were employed.

Walsall has about 9,000 new Commonwealth immigrants in

its population of 270,000. Coloured workers, with Indians forming the largest group, represent about one in five of the employee population. Two thirds of the labour force is in manufacturing, which is twice the national average.

The report concluded that, given that black migration to Britain on any appreciable scale was a quarter of a century old and given the British colour heritage, "it is clearly much more than a normal part of normal training procedures."

He said that black workers tended to avoid employers known to employ very few or no blacks. It was suggested that notices of vacancies should carry a symbol which indicated some commitment to equal employment opportunity, to show black workers that an application would not be a waste of time.

Another suggestion was the need to store information about ethnic origin with other relevant facts about employees. Mr Brooks said many Walsall employers did not know exactly how many black workers they had, their origins or in detail the jobs they were doing.

Mr Cadbury's view was that "if we are serious about equality of opportunity this information must be available". It should be with the knowledge

and agreement of those being classified and the reason should be explained to them. The report said that apart from the growth of black employment in the health service there had been little change in the individual distribution of black workers since 1966. Four out of five black workers were in semi-skilled or unskilled jobs, compared with just over half that figure for whites. Only two of 1,800 black workers covered by the survey were foremen.

In metal manufacture employers usually recruited blacks only when enough suitable whites could not be found for the generally hard, hot, dirty and unpleasant conditions. Asian workers in particular were prepared to take the jobs and were found to be thoroughly reliable and hard working in contrast to West Indians.

One of the main areas of discontent was lack of promotion opportunities. A white foundry manager summed it up thus: "Some Indians have a higher IQ than their white supervisors and know it. They know they could do the supervisor's job better than he can and they say so. Ten years ago they were content to take the ordinary jobs but now they want to rise."

The virtual cessation of black immigration, and the growing familiarity with the industrial world were making Asian workers less docile.

From the white trade unionist's view there was a marked feeling that blacks should con-

form to white working-class behavioural norms, and that, with their distinct language, they did not. The report noted: "The Black Country culture is relatively very insular. And there have been prominent individuals eager to exploit and capitalize on these fears."

Troubles over lack of extended home leave or leave of absence for religious festivals were other areas of grievance. The report continued: "The final major area of concern and apprehension related to job prospects of black school leavers. On the one hand it was widely felt that they would not be content with the kinds of work open to their parents; on the other it was feared that wider, more promising opportunities would be largely closed to them."

Most large employers, however, found black labour did not produce any particular difficulties which would not exist with an all-white workforce apart from those associated with a lack of proficiency in spoken or written English.

An exception among a variety of comments came from one manufacturer, who said: "It is not management, it is the shopfloor workers who resent coloureds. Educated people accept anyone, but the average British shopfloor worker is the biggest monster about coloured people and they offer countless excuses with them, for example, smell, eating habits, language, laziness and slowness to learn jobs."

Sotheby's sell BRITISH AND EUROPEAN PEWTER



A German Guild flag, c.1670 sold on 1st May, 1975 for £1,050

The next Pewter sale will be held at New Bond Street, in mid-July. For information and advice telephone or write to Vanessa Breen.

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European Parliament debate future British Leyland

'Beady eyes on our oil' Mr Allaun says

Mr Frank Allauin, MP, in a message to his constituency Labour Party of Saltaire, Leeds, said yesterday that the EEC states wanted to keep Britain inside the Community because "they had their beady eyes on our oil".

Britain is the only country of the EEC with a vast oil wealth, and a large part of the anxiety by the eight other governments to hang on to us is due to their eagerness to get their hands on these great oil resources.

Why, you wonder, he said, do the Norwegians, another country with great North Sea oil reserves, had voted in its referendum to stay out of the EEC.

In a statement yesterday the National Referendum campaign posed three questions to the pro-EEC organizations. Firstly, why did the EEC insist on staying inside the EEC was so rosy, how was it that British manufacturers had so far failed to compete with the Common Market? Secondly, how did they explain the fact that the EEC investment only £106m in Britain in 1973, Britain invested over £519m in the EEC Common Market? Thirdly, did they think that Britain's failure to invest in home industry or compete with the EEC was due to the fact that, but massive unemployment for British workers?

Union support: Britain's future was in Europe, Mr Harold Gibson, chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions (GFTU), said "the little TUC" was at its annual meeting at Douglas, Isle of Man, yesterday.

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

Arguments about food for the poor are the least of the arguments of the EEC has a dangerous attraction. Mr Peter M. Minister of Agriculture, said yesterday. But their attitude showed "a woeful ignorance of recent experience".

Mr Peart chose the opening of the International Food Industries' Congress in London to launch his strongest attack yet on those who believe that Britain can find adequate and cheap food supplies outside the EEC. He named no individual, but his remarks were clearly directed at Sir John Winniffrith, who was permanent

secretary at the ministry under Mr. Pearl 10 years ago.

Opponents of British membership had failed to understand that relations between developed and developing countries had changed, Mr. Pearl said. "We can no longer exploit their peoples for our food supplies."

The idea that Commonwealth countries would "queue up to meet our needs if we left the Community" revealed an outmoded attitude. It is foolish to suppose that the industrial nations, Britain included, can ever return to the situation of some years ago when it was possible to rely on regular

A situation quoted again and again by those who favour our leaving the Common Market is that of New Zealand dairy produce. Of course it is true that New Zealand can produce butter and cheese more cheaply.

What is conveniently overlooked is that she has never, even in the past, supplied more than half our needs: since we joined the Community she has sent considerably less than the access guaranteed under the Treaty of Accession. She has made it clear that her main concern is to obtain higher prices for her produce.

A country such as ours, which imports nearly half its food supplies, cannot afford to gamble on picking up an occasional bargain whenever there might happen to

Sir Henry Plumb, president of the National Farmers' Union, said yesterday that backbench MPs often showed "appalling ignorance" of agriculture.

Farmers were not "millionaires who live off their fat", but businessmen who would produce food only if there was cash to invest in production, he said at the annual conference of the Dairy Trades Federation in Stratford-on-Avon.

to stay in the EEC. "If we came out of the Community the pound would fall to a low that would be positively frightening."

By Our Financial Staff

If Britain withdraws from the EEC the sales of Guest, Keen and Nettlefold, the largest engineering group in Britain, would almost certainly fall substantially. Mr Barrie Heath, the GKN chairman, said yesterday that that would lead to a decline in employment opportunities and a revision of the group's capital investment plans.

The fall in the turnover of GKN's British-based companies

Without some form of renegotiated associate status (and Mr Heath saw little reason why that should be available on favourable terms) he feared that Continental customers would not renew their present contracts.

Although in terms of direct and estimated indirect exports to EEC countries no more than about a tenth (some £80m) of GKN's business was considered to be directly at risk on a withdrawal from the EEC, the group feared that the general impact on British business might lead to a noticeable decline in orders from the group's British customers as well.

Bankruptcy fear

Staying in the EEC could wreck the Market and bankrupt Britain. Mr Hugh Jenkins, minister responsible for the arts, said last night. Some anti-Marketees in Europe wanted Britain to stay in because it would hasten the EEC's end.

A small group of pro-European communists yesterday accused the anti-EEC Communist Party of Great Britain of "a contemptible surrender to the forces of petit-bourgeois nationalism, represented by Enoch Powell and by the confused and opportunist Labour left".

the Communists for Europe group in an open letter to party members signed by Mr Bill Warren, Mr Alan Jones and Mr John Lloyd. It says the party's policy on the EEC is "a violation of elementary communist principles", adding:

We consider it essential to reassert the fundamental Marxist principle of internationalism, of solidarity between the working classes of different nations, and of opposing all nationalist sentiments which would divide the working classes from one another.

From Edmund Stevens
Moscow

If the Soviet leaders were not atheists they would be offering prayers for a majority in favour of Britain's withdrawal from the EEC in the coming referendum. On every ant occasion Soviet media

applaud the anti-EEC ministers. Pravda especially liked the speech by Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, at the recent Labour Party conference. Its London correspondent commented: "The emphasis on membership harmful to British national interests and has brought the workers 'nothing but disappointment'." In reality Soviet hostility to the EEC is due not to solicitude for British interests but to the conviction that the EEC is a barrier to European economic and industrial infrastructure of Nato, much as Comecon is that of the Warsaw Pact. But Nato, by Soviet definition, is an aggressive

sive military alliance and a menace to world peace, whereas the Warsaw Pact is the main bastion of peace.

The very warmth of the Soviet endorsement of their arguments and activities might serve British anti-marketiers as a caveat.

Hongkong, May 12.—China wants a strong and united Europe and is greatly interested in the issue of Britain's EEC membership, Sir Christopher Soames, the Community's Commissioner for External Relations, said today.

After a visit to Peking, during which it was announced that China will establish official relations with the EEC, he told a news conference that the Chinese were anxious to see the group as it could be in an economic and political sense. Asked for Peking's views on Britain's continued membership, he said: "The Chinese made it perfectly clear

Union leaders' attitude 'frightening', MP says

Tom Bradley, Labour MP for Epsom, East, and president of the Transport Salaried Association, said yesterday: "recent remarks by other union leaders were making me wonder whether they were speaking at the union's conference in Scarborough, he said. "The country's grave miners' crisis is something we must opt out of. To exercise without responsibility in self-interest is not amazing to the national but is the very negative of the basic purposes brought the trade union movement into existence. I demand a larger slice of cake is to deny many in it all."

Bradley said there was "a bit that the Government is doing to help the other half. But could it truthfully be said that the unions had done the same?"

"Many have but some have not," Mr. Bradley said. "We cannot go on much longer pretending that the real world does not exist."

"If we cherish free collective bargaining we ought not to abuse it to the point of bringing about the collapse of an orderly and compassionate society which the unions themselves did so much to create."

Mr. Bradley warned the union that the alternatives were massive unemployment, or a compulsory pay policy, or a combination of both. There was no escape from the decision for the trade union movement other than to make the social contract succeed. "But it does not help to have half a union leadership claiming they have sided with the other half, while the other half-bossing they have broken it."

Der Correspondent

loyers were warned by Mrs. Gustin, Secretary of the State for Social Services, could they fail to implement Equal Pay Act, likely to enter effect at the end year, they had "better out".

was speaking at a presence in Edinburgh before over a meeting of the "National Commission, state of the nation" commission, said that ers had had five years to prepare for the new. She continued:

Michael Foot (Secretary for Employment) is inclined to use full powers the Act is fully implemented. "The boys had better watch en would be well advised to their rights through appropriate unions and get o see that employers did the Act in spirit or in the women have had the f both worlds for so long a bad thing that they now have a real

By Our Labour Staff
Firemen began a

mouth ban yesterday on all duties except emergency calls in support of a demand for a reduction in their working week from 48 to 40 hours, improved shift allowances and better weekend work rates.

The action, decided on at the annual conference of the Fire Brigades Union last week, will not affect fire calls, road accidents or other incidents where life is endangered. Mr John MacDonald, national officer of the union, said: "Firemen will stop fire-prevention work."

Mr MacDonald said: "We believe that firemen should be doing this sort of work but it should be recognized that there must be extra ponds, shillings and shillings for the extra long time for firemen to take action which some of them think is pretty tame; if there is no response from the employers some of them will be looking for something stronger."

The national leaders of the employers met in London yesterday and decided that the action was unjustified.

Scottish fishermen's leaders, including skippers involved in the recent blockade of ports, were told yesterday that employment in the industry would have to be cut. "I do not see any possibility of avoiding some kind of restriction in the industry," Mr. Hugh Brown, Under-Secretary of State at the Scottish Office responsible for fisheries, said.

Speaking to fishermen in Aberdeen, he said the industry faced serious financial difficulties.

actors' union, Equity, approved a demand for minimum wages at \$10 throughout the amusement industry from January, an increase of \$1 from the present \$30 minimum.

Decision was taken amid scenes at the second day union's annual meeting. Left-wing members of the union, led by Miss Rodgers, and Bertha Corbin Redgrave, the demand had not enough.

They wanted approval for committees to occupy that closed down and nationalized in the industry, with no common, up-to-date workers' union.

Twice they shouted challenges to rulings by the chairman, Mr. André Morell, and twice he left the chair.

The meeting approved the annual renegotiation of contracts with regular incomes according to a formula—not the retail price index—calculated by Equity to allow for the cost of living. It also agreed that Equity should start immediate negotiations for similar percentage increases for all members engaged for periods of less than a week.

Mr. Kenneth Drury said cuts had been negotiated by the union several times under the threat from managements that shows would be taken if they were not accepted. The union has a complete abolition and the union must have a policy on wages to fight wage-cutting.

Could the headquarters of the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa be in Johannesburg, South Africa?

There's no reason why it couldn't—except that South Africa itself is barred from this Commission.

Many people are surprised to hear that we were expelled some years ago from the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on purely ideological grounds. One pundit remarked at the time:

"The door has been shut on the one country most likely to cure Africa's many economic ailments. It's like shutting out the doctor and hoping for miracle cures."

South Africa is one of only twenty six industrially developed countries in the world and the only one in Africa – according to the United Nations.

It is the only country in Africa that still has food for others after having fed its own. It leads the continent in every form of technical know-how and research.

Small wonder then that many African states have bypassed the U.N. Economic Commission to seek our assistance.

In 1974, for example, we despatched 14.9 million doses of veterinary vaccine to eight of our black neighbouring countries.

There's absolutely no reason why Johannesburg should not host the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa — provided South Africa is accepted back as a full member.



Further information about South Africa can be obtained from: The Director of Information, South African Embassy, South Africa House, Trafalgar Square, LONDON, WC2N 5DP.

the by

WEST EUROPE France puts out red terminal lag to welcome Chinese vice-premier

Mr Charles Hargrove, 15, May 12—The French deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Tse Hsiao-ping, the Chinese vice-premier, arrived in Paris this morning for a five-day official visit. His party of 20 included Mr. Chiao Kuan-chen, the Foreign Minister, and Mr. Wang Zhaohua, the Chinese ambassador to Paris. Mr. Tse Hsiao-ping, who is the most senior member of the communist Chinese Government ever to visit a Western country, is being received with the honours normally reserved for a head of state. A Chinese red flag with five stars flew with the tricolour from flagpoles and over entrance to the hotel, the Government guest house, opposite the Elysée, where the Chinese delegation stayed.

Mr. Tse was welcomed with military honours. An exotic band was provided by the 40-odd members of the Chinese embassy band to greet him, immediately drawn up on the tarmac in a blue and light grey Mao suit. Only a little girl, the daughter of a third secretary, a light blue skirt and pink top, relieved the monotony of the Chinese diplomatic dress.

Mr. Tse said in reply to Mr. Tse's speech of welcome in France was a country he had lived in his youth (he spent five years here in the 1920s and worked in a factory). "The warm hospitality the French people made a deep impression on me. To it is very pleasant to come back on a visit," he said.

"Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1964, the ties between our two countries have progressively developed. It is with this sincere wish to see them develop further still that I come on this visit to your country."

He ended with a tribute to the "glorious revolutionary tradition" and the "historic spirit of initiative" of the French people, for whom the Chinese people had deep respect and profound admiration.

The importance which the Chinese Government attached to this visit was underlined by the presence at Peking airport at 5 am local time of all four other deputy Prime Ministers. They came to see the Chinese delegation off, much to the surprise of the French diplomats present.

Mr. Tse had a two-hour talk this afternoon with Mr. Chirac. He will have two private talks at the Elysée, one with President Giscard d'Estaing tomorrow and Wednesday, before going to Lyons to visit a factory and to the nuclear centre of Marcoule, in Provence.

The only discordant note in the chorus of welcome to the Chinese delegation in the French press is provided this morning by the Communist organ *Humanité*. It says: "The occasional anti-Soviet policy of the Chinese leaders is likely to satisfy the French Government, which is pursuing an anti-communist campaign reminiscent of the cold war years."

Lisbon tries to calm down raged political tempers

Our Correspondent, Lisbon, May 12—Action was taken today to end the serious split between Portuguese Socialist and communist Parties, which has led political tension throughout the country and given the government reason for anxiety.

Government ministers of all coalition parties—Socialists, Communists, Liberal Democrats and the Portuguese Democratic Movement (MDP)—met today to discuss the situation and outline their party platforms. It was hoped that this sober meeting in public view will reduce dangerous tensions, caused by incidents on May Day, and quell the feeling between Communists and Socialists.

Rigoberto Vasco Gonçalves, Prime Minister, took the opportunity to appeal for a ring of the political temper when he closed the free congress of Portuguese authors and writers in Lisbon today. "We cannot be divided," he said, "we are all different one from another, but now we may be in agreement on the principal action to take, because we do not want to establish despotism in Portugal."

His words were echoed in the ministers' television programme by Lieutenant General Correia of the Revolutionary Council, who said that all democratic forces, whether members of the coalition or not, must strive for joint political action above any partisan quarrel.

An indication of the tension that exists came several hours before the television programme when angry crowds of extralegal left-wing elements tried to wreck the headquarters of the centrist Social Democratic Party in Oporto. They were held off by troops who blocked all access to the building.

All four ministers of the coalition, who stood as candidates in the elections, have given up the seats they won in the Constituent Assembly in order to remain in ministerial office and prevent a Cabinet crisis. Government ministers are not allowed to act as parliamentary deputies.

Machine gun tack on assue hotel

Lisbon, May 12—Unidentified men believed to be right-wing extremists attacked a small hotel at Estoril near Lisbon, machine guns and bombs today, the police said. No one was injured.

The hotel is owned by the brother of Señor Juan José, a former member of Basque separatist organization ETA, which has been used by the Government of Portugal for four policemen in the five weeks.

The police declined to speculate on the identity of the attackers, but Basque sources said they were members of right-wing "Guerrillas of the King" based in the north.

Dr Kohl named CDU candidate for Chancellor

Bonn, May 12—The executive board of the opposition Christian Democratic Union today nominated Dr. Helmut Kohl, the party chairman, as its candidate for Chancellor in the 1976 general election.

The unanimous decision is still subject to confirmation by the CDU Presidium and the party congress next month.

Word has yet to come from the CDU's Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union and its leader, Herr Franz Josef Strauss. The CSU has in the past few days increased its campaign for the nomination of Herr Strauss. It argues that it would take a strong man to beat Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor, whose image is that of a forceful Social Democrat on the right wing of his party. —Reuter.



Five days heard visible as Dr di Gennaro meets the press yesterday.

Rome hunt after kidnap judge freed

Rome, May 12—Italian police today searched 40 homes in and around Rome in the hunt for a gang of left-wing guerrillas who kidnapped a senior Italian judge to give publicity to their jailed comrades.

The judge, Dr. Giuseppe di Gennaro, aged 51, was released late last night after five days captivity handcuffed in a tiny cell. In a telephone call to a

news agency, his captors, an obscure ultra left-wing group called "Armed Proletarian Nuclei" (NAP) demanded that five top lawyers defend their accomplices who rioted in prison last Friday.

Fresh guerrilla action was threatened unless the lawyers were made available.

In Viterbo, where three prisoners knifed two guards and took another hostage last Friday to follow up the kidnapping of Dr. di Gennaro, 20 other convicts were still protesting on the prison roof. In pouring rain, they demanded talks with the authorities, prison reform, and a telephone.

Speaking to journalists after his ordeal, Dr. di Gennaro described the NAP guerrillas as determined, brave, and extremely well-informed about senior members of the judiciary.

He said he was kidnapped because of his reputation as a progressive judge. "According to them I had become the person most responsible for dividing prisons and confusing the proletariat," he said.

Milan, May 12—Police have detained two more people, making a total of 11, in connection with the kidnapping of 10-year-old Paolo Raimondi, adoptive son of a tile manufacturer. He was released after payment of a 150m lire (about £100,000) ransom. —UPI.

Africa's press reaches out to the land

Zurich, May 12—The press in Africa is beginning to reach out to the mass of people in rural areas, Mr. Frank Barrow, Africa Director of the International Press Institute (IPI), told the organization's annual assembly here today.

In a special report on Africa, Mr. Barrow, a British described this as "a heartening development."

He told some 120 delegates from 34 countries that in this way, the press in Africa was beginning to perform a function

"which is arguably more important than the preservation of freedom, and that is the availability of information."

He went on: "I think the best one can hope for in so far as the written media of Africa are concerned—radio and television, all Government-owned, have always been a lost cause in the freedom stakes—is that at least some written voice will spread through the vast hinterland hitherto unreached."

"Though it will not be bringing any message of democratic

Bonn issues new security measures before trial

From Dan van der Var, Bonn, May 12

New security measures to protect Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, were put into effect today in response to threats from urban guerrilla groups.

The chancellery building, the Palais Schaumburg, in Bonn, is now barred to organized parties of visitors from schools and elsewhere. Civil servants have been forbidden to park their cars in the grounds. Vehicles entering on business are being minutely examined.

The detachment from the Federal Border Guard, which is responsible for protecting the Chancellor and the President, who resides in the neighbouring Villa Hammerschmidt, has been heavily reinforced.

No specific reason has been given for these measures. But a Government spokesman said today that there had been a number of threats from purported terrorist organizations.

Quite clearly, with only nine days to go before the start of the trial of the alleged leaders of the most violent terrorist gang of all, the Baader-Meinhof group, the authorities are taking no chances. An apparently related organization has just threatened a rocket attack on Stuttgart, where the trial is to be held.

Meanwhile, police in Munster are now convinced that 53 one-litre bottles of British mustard gas, of the type used in the First World War and stolen from a dump near the town a fortnight ago, are in the hands of terrorists.

The gas, stored in liquid form in steel bottles, was handed over to the West German Army by the British Army of the Rhine for destruction as the British authorities do not have the required facilities in Germany. The total consignment of 99 bottles was stored in a concrete bunker.

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Promises election once Soviet is 'normal'

OVERSEAS Leningrad visit by American warships

Leningrad, May 12.—Watched by a mostly silent crowd of 300, American warships arrived in the city today. They were the first to visit the Soviet Union since the Second World War and the first to berth at Leningrad for 113 years.

A gun salute was fired as the guided missile destroyer USS *Leahy* and the guided missile cruiser USS *Belknap* docked in the river. It was part of an exchange visit marking the twentieth anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany. Two vice destroyers are visiting.

Terrier missiles which American officials said were dummies are on the *Leahy's* deck. In the visit, officials declined to say if the ships carried any nuclear arms.

The commander of the force, Admiral Justin Langille, offered his white gloves and unlocked his gold-hilted sword before stepping onto Soviet territory to shake hands with Admiral Ivan Kolchin, assistant commander of Leningrad naval base.

"It is a great honour to be in this city," Admiral Langille said. "We come here with warm memories of the glorious days of the Second World War."

Spectators behind a wire fence guarded by security forces held a sign saying in English: "Welcome to the SSR." They did not applaud, cheer, or waved back to American sailors who waved back. The ships will be open to visitors.

American researchers said the first time an American warship allied at Leningrad, then St Petersburg, was in 1862. They said the last recorded visit by a Russian warship to the United States was in 1864.

Unarmed Naval research vessels of the two superpowers have visited each other's ports since the war but this was the first call by fighting ships.

As the American vessels passed within 20 yards of Kronstadt island, the *Leahy* fired a 21-gun salute, echoed by a battery on the island.

The two ships carry a total of some 700 officers and ratings who are being offered, during their five-day stay, visits to the city, the Kirov ballet, the Hermitage museum, the revolutionary cruiser *Auror* and city tours. They will take part in volleyball and basketball competitions with Russian sailors.—PI.

Fear gas used to disperse Kenya students

Nairobi, May 12.—Riot police today used tear gas to disperse Nairobi university students who had besieged the dean's office for the arrest last week of one of their leaders.

The students said the coordinating secretary of Mungira University students union, representing university students from the predominantly Kikuyu area of Murang'a in central Kenya, was arrested last Friday and had not been seen since.

According to the university sources, the students sent four representatives to the dean's office and after an exchange of words, the university administration called the riot police. A confrontation followed in which students hurled stones at the police who replied with tear gas.—Agence France-Press.

25 killed as bus falls into ravine

Mexico City, May 12.—Twenty-five people were killed and 30 injured when a bus collided with two other vehicles and fell into a ravine near Toluca yesterday.—Reuters.

Seoul opposition to new security laws crumbles

Seoul, May 12.—President Park Chung Hee won an important endorsement for his national security policy today when the opposition, which had threatened to support two proposed new laws aimed at curbing civil liberties in South Korea even further and checking the flow of capital out of the country.

The opposition group, led by Mr Kim Young Sam, decided at a party meeting to go along in principle with the Park Government's measures.

According to regime sources, the new internal security law is generally intended to place stricter surveillance, while the second draft law aims at stopping wealthy people and other privileged persons from leaving with their property.

It has been reported that many prominent South Koreans are already in possession of emigration passports.

The sources said that the two proposed laws were essential to establishing a "wartime emergency system" to cope with an increased threat from North Korea after the communist advances in Indo-China.

President Park has often been accused of overplaying the issue of national security for his own political purposes. The Indo-China developments, however, have substantially changed the domestic political climate to give credence to his claim that South Korea's national security is most seriously threatened since the 1953 Korean armistice. The President already has unlimited power under the 1972 constitution, which he wrote allegedly to cope with an imminent threat from North Korea.



The Queen plans a lapling in the grounds of Akasaka Palace, Tokyo, to commemorate her six-day visit to Japan.

Queen's tour hailed as 'spectacular success'

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, May 12

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh made farewell to Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako in Tokyo today as they wound up a six-day state visit to Japan and flew back to London in a British Airways 707 airliner.

The Queen, who became the first British monarch to visit Japan, was given a warm welcome by large crowds of Japanese well-wishers who lined the streets of Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka to get a glimpse of the royal couple.

The Japanese press described the tour as a "spectacular success" today. "Journalists observed that the Queen had managed to chat informally with ordinary people without losing her dignity or elegance."

Responding to the Queen's recurring references to trade links between Britain and Japan during her formal speeches in Tokyo, several national newspapers described her as "Britain's most elegant saleswoman."

The visit, was described by many as the most spectacular national event since the Emperor's coronation.

Earlier today, the Queen and Prince Philip, accompanied by Lord Shepherd, the Lord Privy Seal, and Lady Shepherd and an entourage of 12, returned to Tokyo from Nagoya in a 130 mph bullet train. They had spent the weekend visiting famous Buddhist and Shinto temples, ancient palaces and other centres of Japanese culture in the south-west of the country.

On returning to the Akasaka Palace, the state guest house in Tokyo, the Queen planted a sapling in the grounds to commemorate the visit.

As the Queen and the Emperor stood stiffly together in the palace grounds this afternoon, a royal guard of honour presented arms while the national anthems of the two countries were played.

The royal couple then moved down a long line of dignitaries to say farewell to the Crown Prince and members of the imperial household, Mr Takeo Miki, the Prime Minister, and other political leaders.

The Queen was seen off at the airport by Sir Frederick Warner, the British Ambassador, as well as the Japanese Ambassador to Britain and senior protocol officers.

Army team to 'seek revenge' on death peak

Katmandu, May 12.—The 31-man British-Nepalese Army expedition will attempt to reach the top of the 25,850ft Nuptse peak today or tomorrow in spite of the death of two of their climbers, the Nepalese Foreign Ministry said today.

A message received from Major J. W. Fleming, the leader of the expedition, said that the second assault group would try to reach the summit to seek revenge on "this tricky peak."

Nuptse is west of the Everest massif and was opened for mountaineering only this year after having been banned for more than 15 years.

Major Fleming's message identified the two dead climbers as Major G. R. Owens, who was 36, and Captain R. A. Sumner, aged 28. They were part of the first assault group on Friday. They left their seventh and final camp, pitched at 23,500ft, at 7 am in fine weather but were caught by strong blizzards after a short climb.

It is presumed that they were first hit by a falling rock and then plunged into a crevasse.

A rescue helicopter spotted the two bodies roped together in the crevasse yesterday. For the moment it is considered too dangerous to recover them.

The joint Army expedition comprises 17 British climbers, seven Gurkha soldiers from the British Army, three members of the Royal Nepalese Army, including a major, and four Sherpa guides.

Major Owens had conquered the 21,325ft Iceland peak with another climber on April 30 while the others were acclimatizing at Dingboche. On the following day the base camp was pitched at 16,996ft at the foot of the Nuptse glacier.

The British have already crossed the most dangerous and technically difficult steep rock climbing lying between camp 4 and camp 6 in spite of bad weather and strong blizzards.

It was reported that this morning the weather was generally fine but climbing had been hampered by a great deal of snow which had fallen daily in the late afternoon and evenings.—Agence France Press.

Propaganda upsets Mr Denktash

From Our Correspondent
Nicosia, May 12

A special committee to study the powers and functions of the central government held its first meeting here today, ushering in a new and important phase in the efforts to reach a settlement of the Cyprus problem.

The setting up of the committee was agreed two weeks ago during the resumed Cyprus peace talks in Vienna between Mr Glafkos Clerides and Mr R. Denktash, the representatives of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities. The committee will examine detailed proposals and report back to the negotiators at their next meeting.

Mr Denktash said that the Greek Cypriot community "must choose between sitting at a conference table with the Turkish Cypriots or maintaining its propaganda campaign against them."

He appeared upset by the support given by the Greek Cypriot side both at the Commonwealth conference in Jamaica earlier this month, and at the special weekend conference in London to urge implementation of the United Nations resolution calling for the return of all Cypriot refugees to their homes and the withdrawal of all foreign troops.

President Makarios sent a recorded message to the London conference.

Mr Denktash said the Turkish side had to think seriously before attending today's meeting of the special committee after the Archbishop's statement to the conference and the support given unilaterally by the Commonwealth to the Greek Cypriot community with-out taking into consideration the suffering of the Turkish Cypriot community over the past 11 years.

"Consequently", Mr Denktash continued, "I decided not to attend personally, but to send representatives to today's meeting."

The most serious threat to the work of the special committee was contained in a second warning by Mr Denktash that "if the Greek Cypriot community does not withdraw its case from the European Human Rights Commission, the meeting of the committee will have to be interrupted."

He explained that this would come about because the three Turkish Cypriot legal experts appointed to the special central government committee would have to leave for Strasbourg next week to represent the Turkish Cypriot side at the Human Rights Commission hearings, if these took place.

Greek Cypriot officials sources interpreted Mr Denktash's stand as a warning aimed at either the postponement of the Greek Cypriot recourse to the commission, or the postponement of the work of the central government

committee and consequently the reconvening of the Vienna talks on June 5.

The Greek Cypriot representatives on the committee are Mr Ciriak Tormarites, the Attorney General, Mr Justice Michael Tzannetoulas, president of the Cyprus Court of Appeal, and Tassos Papadopoulos, a former minister.

The Turkish Cypriot representatives are Mr Justice Nejad Munir of the Turkish Cypriot high court, Mr Zaim Nejad, a senior prosecutor of the Turkish Cypriot separate federated state proclaimed unilaterally last February, and Mr Umur Suleyman, a prominent lawyer.

The powers and functions of the central government are proving a serious obstacle to settling the Cyprus problem.

The Greek Cypriot side supports a strong central government in an eventual multi-regional federation, while the Turkish Cypriot side insists on the establishment of a bi-regional federation based on the "reality" brought about by the Turkish invasion and occupation of nearly half the island, where both communities would live separately under their own federal administrations with only a weak central government to link them.

Mr Clerides has stated publicly that he considers the issue of a strong central government so important that he would concede the Turkish demand for a bi-zonal federation, if the Turkish Cypriots accepted a strong central government.

Rioting workers occupy Pacific copper mine

Port Moresby, May 12.—Rioting workers tonight occupied the copper mine on Bougainville in the Solomon Islands after going on a rampage through the mining town of Panguna, according to telephoned reports from the island.

Reliable sources said the workers wrecked the police station and Government administration block, flinging furniture and fittings into the street. Police twice used tear gas to try to disperse the crowd of more than 1,000 rioters but failed to prevent them seizing two big bulldozers to rip up access roads to the town. The workers apparently intended to prevent police reinforcements reaching Panguna.

The riot began after the workers, all Papua New Guineans, walked out. They were protesting against their pay and conditions and the dismissal of a trade union official, a union spokesman said. Government and police spokesmen in Port Moresby, 250 miles away on the Papua New Guinea mainland, refused to comment.

The sources on Bougainville island said that company officials feared the rioting would spread and were preparing to evacuate women and children from Panguna. Officials were also hastily immobilising hundreds of company vehicles, including 105-ton ore carriers.

Panguna is linked to the island's administrative centre of Arawa by a 26-mile road carved through mountainous countryside eight years ago.

The Bougainville mine cost \$4,400m (£231m) to develop and is operated by a subsidiary of the British-owned Rio Tinto Zinc group.—Reuters.

The De Havilland 82 Tiger Moth flew through the 170ft space between the bottom of the bridge and the waters of the harbour and between two pylon towers about 1,500ft apart, a spokesman for the

Department of Civil Aviation said.

Such flights are illegal because no aircraft may fly at less than 1,500ft in urban areas.

The last pilot to fly a fixed-wing aircraft under the bridge was Mr H. George, an Air Force officer in 1946. On August 23, 1943, a Lancaster bomber flew under the bridge with official permission. Helicopters have done the trick in 1951 and 1963.—AP.

Flight under Sydney bridge was first for 29 years

Sydney, May 12.—An unidentified pilot in a biplane today became the first person for 29 years to succeed in Australia's favourite daredevil sport: the illegal flying of fixed-wing aircraft under the Sydney harbour bridge.

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In 1975 Barnardo's will be fighting against a tide of financial difficulties in order to continue its work. Today's most urgent problems are found among single-parent families, latch-key children, deprived children, handicapped children, deserted children, disturbed children and, sometimes, just plain bored children. All the problems are different and by a mix of schools, special units, Day Care centres and homes, the Society's workers try to help as many children as possible.

Today's Barnardo's is a family affair. Barnardo's becomes heavily involved with the parents too. Only as a last resort do we recommend that children be separated from their mothers or fathers. A special unit in Cardiff, for example, works with all members of the family together.

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As an adult, you'll know how vital is a good start in life. Well, for 7000 children, Barnardo's offers a chance to build a good life. Please, help us to help them do it. Send what you can. Even £1 would help.

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SPORT

Racing

Libra's Rib appears only danger to Corby

By Michael Phillips

Racing Correspondent

The spotlight now focuses on the York, which recently became the first northern racecourse to receive the Racecourse Grading of racecourses of the year. Today marks the start of another season of racing on the famous Knavesmire, where the Dante Stakes is the next in a long line of classic trials to ponder. As a pointer to the Derby it can claim only modest success since its inception in 1958. St Paddy won it in 1960 and he was the Derby horse, but he is the only horse to have won the Dante Stakes and to have been crowned champion of the year.

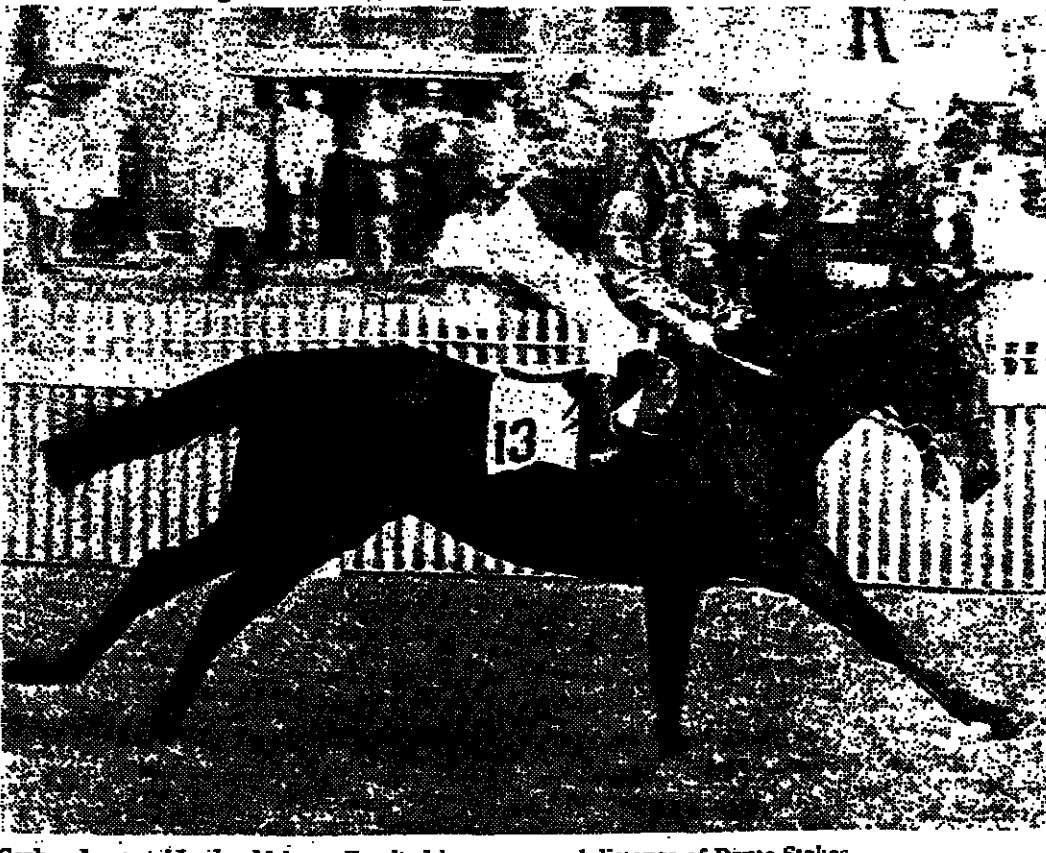
As confidence in Green Dancer's ability to win this year's Derby continues to increase, so does optimism begin to rise in Ireland, where a particularly nice colt called Nuthatch has just emerged as a serious contender. This country still seems to be scratching our heads not knowing quite where to turn to find a custodian of English honours. If one had not come to realize in a long time ago, Paddy simply reminded us of a horse who would Saturday that when in doubt it is probably as well to rely on Paddy. Wally, who holds an almost unbelievable record for this season.

By winning the Derby Trial at Lingfield as easily as he did, Paddy not only did his own image a power of good but also drew attention to the chance that his stable has of winning the Dante. Now the question is whether Corby is a colt who can make anything else left Wally and his stable to him. Paddy did make his presence felt at Lingfield.

Now Corby is being given his chance to win the Dante. It is thought that York, where there is a run in of four furlongs, will suit him as big long-striding colt as Corby who was seen to real advantage on a similar course once as a two-year-old when he won the Horner Hill Stakes at Newbury. Wally's winter rest found the course at Thirsk much too damp and the distance of the classic trial was too long. Having looked beaten two furlongs from home he rallied to such effect that he was left only a neck in the end by Royal Man-

scie, who had already had a race. Royal Manoeuvre then went on to finish fourth in the 2,000 Guineas. If Corby's beaten this afternoon, and that is a possibility, he will be a 10 runner. Libra's Rib ran badly in the 2,000 Guineas, but he has been a consistent performer in the past. It is inevitable that he will be a horse one failure. Libra's Rib has been working consistently well since he was beaten in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas.

The only time that I have seen Diaghilov was at Sandown Park last over a fortnight ago, when he was in a more ordinary way at the start and refused to enter the stalls. His home work, though, has been good. He has been a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas.



Corby: long stride should be well suited by course and distance of Dante Stakes.

the White Rose Stakes. When I was in Ireland in April intent on checking up on Sea Breeze, Paddy Frimpong told me that Corby was a 10 runner. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas.

after his encouraging effort at Epsom, especially now that Dick Hern's stable has begun to find its rhythm. The may be a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas.

afternoon. It boasts only a small field, but that field embraces three colts who have yet to find their rhythm. The may be a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas. He was a 10 runner in the 2,000 Guineas.

Runners and riders for first day at York

[Television (IBA): 3.0, 3.35 and 4.10 races]

2.0 ZETLAND STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £1,335: 5f)

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2.30 GLASGOW STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £2,324: 1m 1f)

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3.0 TATTERSALL YOKES STAKES (2-y-o: £1,353: 5f)

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3.35 DAVID DIXON HANDICAP (4,432: 1m)

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Fashion



Above: from Bill Gibb's Autumn/Winter collection: Hooded "Otterburn" pure wool tweed cape coat in shades of yellow, over a heather wool knit pinafore dress patterned with yellow/grey circles. The dress has a scoop neck edged with bands of colour, a centre front inverted plait and pockets either side. Worn over a patterned rayon blouse with a black velvet bow, and the fringed scarf over the coat matches the dress. Available from August at Harrods, Knightsbridge, and Feathers, Kensington High Street, W8, and New Bond Street, W1.
Coat £160. Pinafore £26. Blouse £42. Scarf £9. Knit headband not shown £1.20. Prices approximate. Ankle boots by Chelsea Cobbler, at all their branches.

'Who's your fat friend?'
or should it be,
'who was that goddess I saw you
with last night?'

At some stage during the last 75 years—and I would put the date at around 1918 when that sinister word emancipation was heard in the land—larger women who aspired to chic became the prerogative of the custom-made fashion house. Social taste, and the ready-to-wear manufacturer, favoured the slim, and have gone on doing so ever since. Only the couturier was adept at la mode dirigible, he blushed not at the sight of the 42in. befront, he never quailed behind the 50in. behind (I know I ought to be writing in the metric system now but the figures involved in the outside market are too daunting).

Having been the epitome of feminine glory—J. B. Priestley in *The Edwardians* conjures a gorgeous picture of immense, mono-proved beauties, fit mothers of heroes (as indeed they were destined to prove) being pursued round country house parties by the over-fed and over-winded lusty men of the period and waiting with their "maritorial thighs" in a twitter of romance behind their bedroom doors. Picture postcards of the pre 1914 popular favourites show ladies who now would be directed to the cross-crimplene department in a trice awash with chiffons and enlarging flowers and anything but discreet necklines.

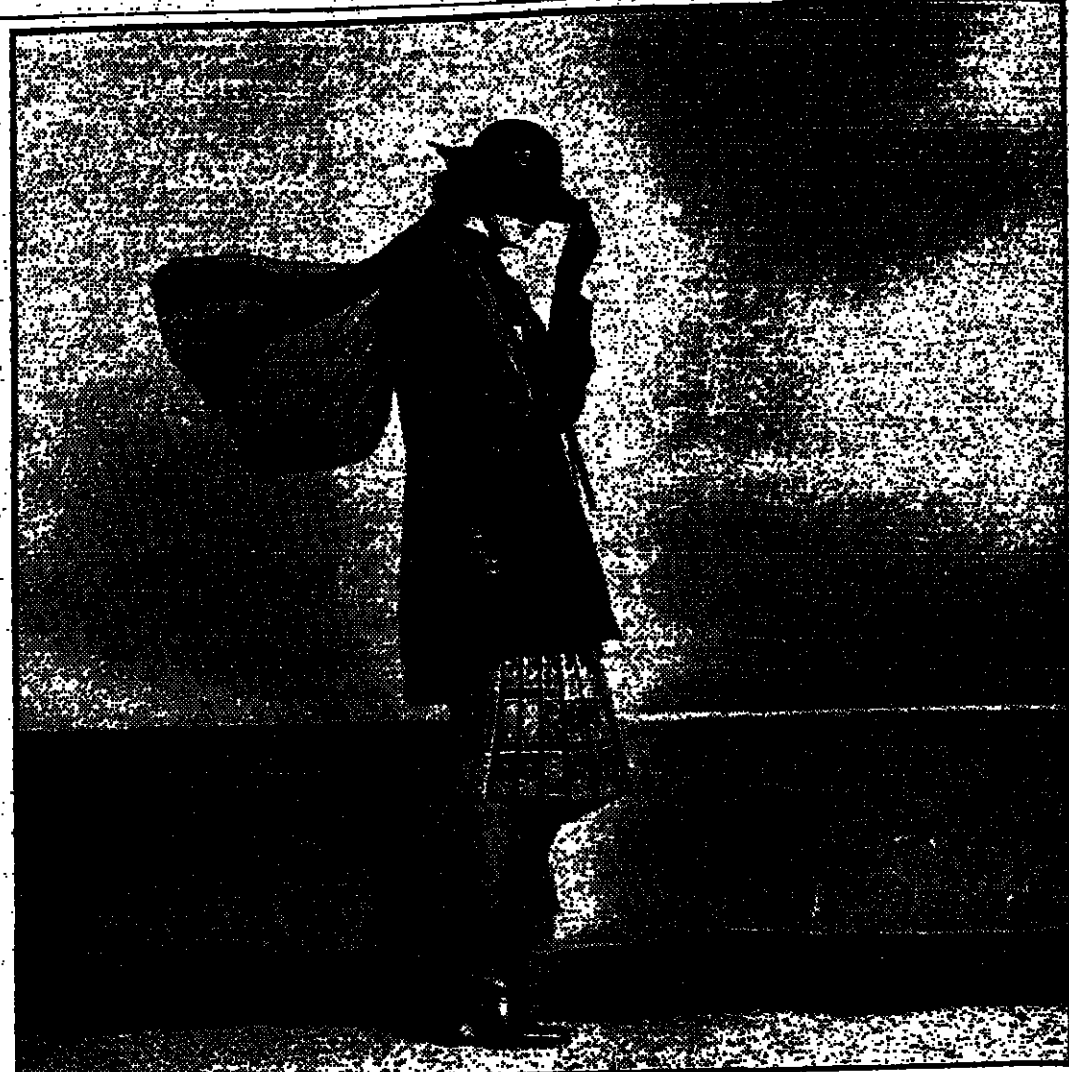
What does it say about a society when only the skinny are admired? Is emancipation inseparable from emaciation? Or does the admiration of large ladies, who presumably cost more to keep up, only go with a period of material prosperity—in which case how is it that the ladies, which were prosperous, saw the advent of such figures as Twiggy? I looked for enlightenment to a book called *A History of Fashion* by J. Anderson Black (he of the *History of Jewels*) and the distinguished Madge Garland. This book, which if it lacks other distinctive features does constitute a 112.50 the first coffee table book to cost as much as the coffee table, provides, alas, no historical evidence for or against my size/economy theory, though the text is as solid as the table it is designed to rest on and about as easy to digest as chewing the legs. On the other hand, something must be done about topical design for the big woman, who at the moment is confronted, or more properly affronted, by designs so far removed from the norm of fashion as to perpetuate any sense of freak she already feels.

Having said that something should be done, it remains realistic to point out that something will be done, on the wider front, when being large is seen again in society as being admirable. Large individuals never have any trouble, provided they have a large bank balance.

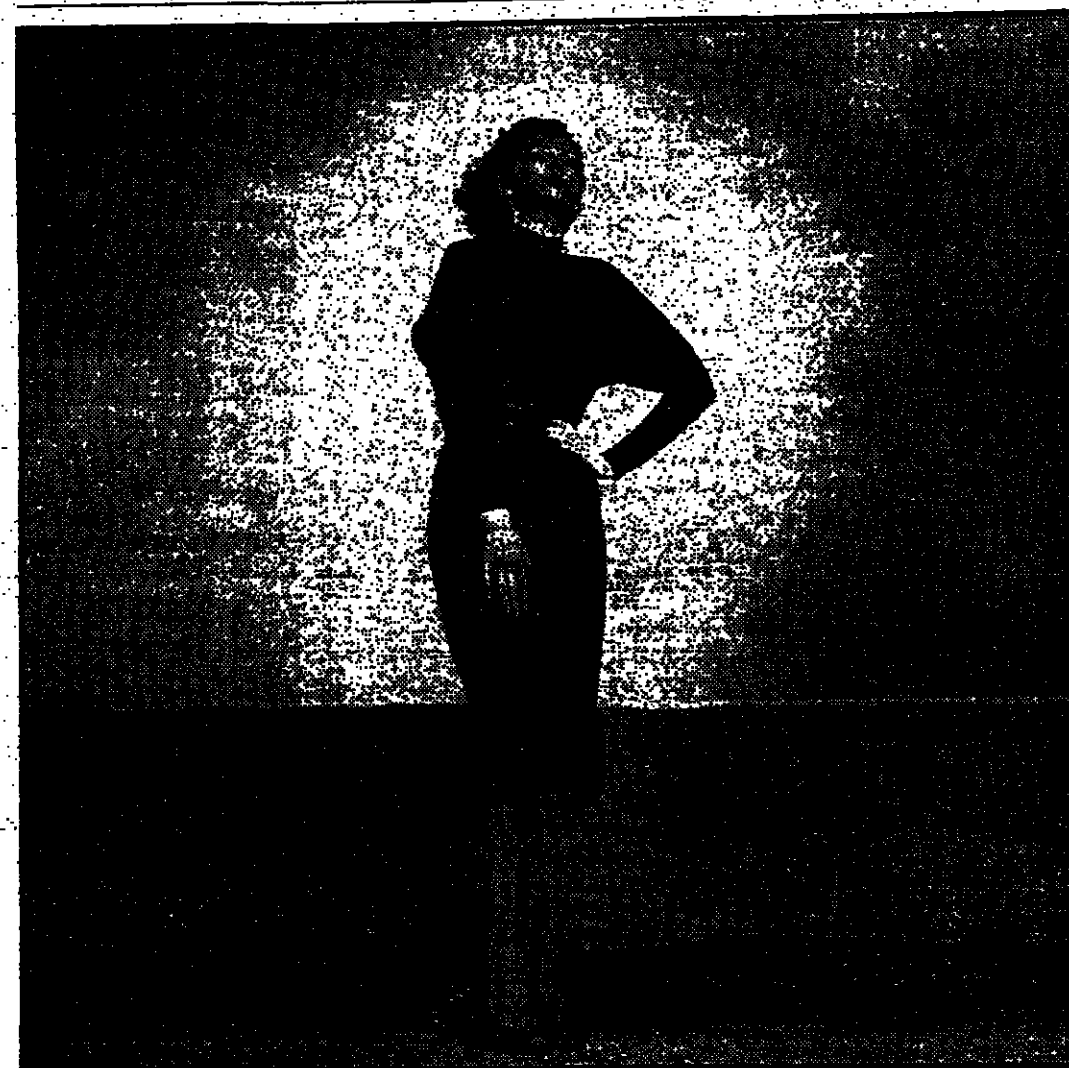
Consider the impressive female forms which grace the operatic stage. Nobody to my knowledge has ever murmured to Montserrat Caballe that she is a shade too large for the ordinary departments, though I did note that she in the credits for *Il Trovatore* at Covent Garden the other night was listed as wearing her own costumes, but, then, Covent Garden is notoriously underfunded and possibly the prospect of quite so many yards of extra fabric of a quality suitable for a star would have put the production hopelessly over budget. The point is, though, that Madame Caballe is, though the size of an airship, an extremely pretty and beguilingly feminine woman and whoever did her costumes obviously did them with love and admiration. The same could be said for the ravishing neo-classical gowns worn by all those ladies who were not disguised as men in Covent Garden's production of *Il clemenza di Tito*; their lovely necks and throats and bosoms and the tops of their charming rounded arms were displayed with the utmost charm.

I think it must have something to do with personal knowledge and inspiration. Assessing the work in an outside—such a dreadful description—fashion competition the other day I was struck by the fact that the best explained designs were based on an experience of an actual friend or teacher who was larger than usual. At the same time there is a discernible trend among our top designers to think in terms of something other than size eight. My major criticism of Bill Gibb's latest collection is that it was shown on the current crop of international beauties of the model world who if bound together in a bunch would hardly measure a size 22. Particularly the evening dresses which Bill showed—intricately constructed jerseys (Giana by Du Pont) with panels of beads inset, and two romantic white and gold peignoir outfits would have been twice as effective shown with panache by a big woman.

Treading with care, I might point out that Bill's manager, Kate Franklyn, is not precisely size 10, and that Susan Collier, of Liberty, who designed the most outstanding print used in the collection, a patchwork of single flowers outlined with solid coloured borders, is similarly graciously endowed. Though perhaps it was those lovely huge women he and I met in Yugoslavia. One of the comments made to me during the show was that "these are such lovely easy clothes to wear for someone of any size." Recovering from the brilliance of



Above: from Bill Gibb's collection: Black suede jacket with richly embroidered long narrow lapels. It has a straight, pleated dress. The black wool crepe yoke and long sleeves are stitched with yellow and the dress of pure wool has a colourful, window of flowers print, designed by Susan Collier. Available from August at Harrods.
Jacket £190 approx. Dresses £92 approx. Brimmed hat by Diane Logan, made to order from her shop at 40 Chiswick Street, W1.
Ankle boots by Chelsea Cobbler.



Above: Washable giana jersey dress designed by Yuki at Rembrandt. The blouse top with detailed top stitching across the bust and very subtle dolman sleeves fits perfectly into the very straight skirt.
Style 1030. Sizes 10-16. Colours white, champagne, beige, plum, red, blue, peach, brown and black. Available in July from Harrods, Harvey Nichols, Debenhams, Lucienne's, Simpsons, Barkers, Vogue, and Patto, all in London, also Rackhams, Birmingham, Bentalls, Kingston, Cassandra of Bournemouth, Dorset, Milligans of Henley. Approx £39.50. Maud Frizon suede sandals and wide leather belt from Browns, 23, South Molton Street, W1. £38 and £4.50.
Photographs by Willie Christie.

the knits, in which Britain now seems to march the world, because John Bate also did magnificent ones in his last collection, and from the superbly cut raincoats and coats, I thought this comment shrewd. One of the arts of the great designer is to make the woman who wears his clothes feel like a goddess, and goddesses come in all sizes.

The Japanese designer Yuki has always dressed women of all sizes for the simple reason that his clothes are so subtly cut and so minimally constructed that no one has the least idea just what goes on—if anything—underneath. Yuki is the master of the feminine form divine, and that women who wear his clothes feel like goddesses, or anyhow different, we know from the lips of no less a beauty than Miss Cayle Hunnicutt, who when dismantling her marriage to David Hemmings revealed to the world that her self-confidence had been revolutionized by the dresses Yuki made for her.

The problem so far has been that to look like a goddess in Yuki you need a god-like income, unless you are prepared to buy one of the very many, mostly nasty, copies of his dresses. It is now possible to get the best of both worlds. Yuki dresses are being made by a firm which knows as much about making dresses as anyone, Rembrandt. They are being made in Giana, the same fibre used by Bill Gibb, and they represent, as I have always thought such a collection should, the greatest shapes from past couture seasons transplanted without any sacrifice into a more commercial production system and marketed accordingly. Yuki is into the straight and narrow skirt in a

big way—he dressed Marie Helvin for her modelling stint at the French collections in January when the Tube caused such consternation. Miss Helvin was already in tubes, but cut with such artifice that the skirt is always balanced by volume at the top so any woman can wear it. Any woman? I think so. Modern clothes are not suits of armour, they are made by the body that wears them, and that body is attractive not by size but by proportion and tenor. "Who's your fat friend?" the Beau enquired unkindly, a propos the Prince Regent. But big is not the same as fat. Can it be that as the economic gloom settles and soy protein and lettuce leaves from the allotment form our only affordable diet, we shall look again to commanding heights in feminine charms? Will big again be beautiful?

for men

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Uncertainties surrounding the plan to take over land

According to the introductory White Paper the purpose of the Community Land Bill is twofold. First, it is said that by leaving so much initiative in private hands the present planning system provides a negative power of veto but insufficient power for the "community" (a euphemism for central and local government) "always to plan positively".

Bearing in mind that it is local government that prepares development plans, designates areas of comprehensive development, grants planning permission and approves design and layout, this is a fairly questionable proposition. It is even more so where account is taken of the powers of central government under the New Towns Act and the Town Development Act and its powers to amend and modify development plans.

The superiority of a monopoly of "positive planning" in the hands of central and local government is even less self-evident. It has hitherto been the hearings and public inquiries into compulsory purchase orders that have concentrated the minds of members and officers of local authorities, highlighted defects in their proposals and provided the opportunity for public participation in such plans, to Labour politicians.

But the rights to such hearings, and indeed all effective means of objection, are to disappear. Nor is much comfort to be drawn from ability to object to development plans for such plans are not to be binding upon local authorities in the choice of land to be acquired.

The second purpose of the Bill is to deal with "land prices and betterment". In market terms land has to be regarded more as a raw material than as an end product. House prices, for example, reflect the demand for houses and not the price paid for the land; whatever the difference in the price paid for the land, similar houses on adjoining plots sell at the same price. Land prices soar because landowners become more greedy but because high prices can be obtained for houses, offices, etc. The ownership of land in this context is therefore irrelevant.

The argument about betterment is, of course, a perennial one and of much more ancient origin. Where identifiable property is directly benefited by public expenditure as by the provision of sewerage, water, etc., the principle of recompense has been accepted and operated since the early part of the nineteenth century.

Similarly, the set-off against compensation of benefit to land retained by an owner resulting from the public development proposed on the land being acquired from him is equally firmly established; so also is the discounting, in assessing compensation for land acquired as part of a larger scheme of development, of the effect of the rest of the scheme upon its value.

The difficulty arises where



There is still a belief, however ill-founded, that an Englishman's home is his castle

the effect of public expenditure is indirect and it is impossible precisely to identify what neighbouring property has benefited and to what extent any increase in its value is in fact due to public expenditure as opposed to other causes.

Various attempts at recompense have been made since those of the seventeenth century (notably in connection with the rebuilding of London after the Great Fire) but all have produced anomalies: either the community has been more than fully reimbursed at the cost of injustice to individuals, or private rights have been fully respected at the cost of under-recompense of public funds.

Unfortunately advocates of more effective recompense all too often appear to assume that any increase in property values (other than those due to inflation) is betterment, and that all betterment derives from public expenditure or administrative action. Nothing, of course, could be further from the truth.

Property values change with economic demand and betterment is as likely to result from

private as from public expenditure. Nor does the granting of planning permission create development value; it merely concentrates it on particular parcels of land at the expense of the rest. Moreover, since ratable values reflect changes in property values, local authorities already exact such share of those values as, from time to time, they deem appropriate.

The fact that ratable values cannot reflect the cause of changes in value can hardly be a matter of concern to those who complain that public reimbursement is inadequate. If rates are not the most popular of taxes there is no evidence that wholesale nationalisation and confiscation of development values is likely to be any more so.

The truth, of course, is that the real problem is public concern—though jealousy would be the more honest word—in regard to the windfall fortunes that sometimes accrue from land deals, but it is difficult to see what the community has lost, especially when account is taken of the effect of taxation on the proceeds, whether saved and invested or spent. What the Labour Party seem utterly incapable of grasping is first, that there is still a widespread belief—however ill-founded—that an Englishman's home is his castle, and second, that the Labour Party's central government by operating the planning system to their own advantage are likely to be even less popular than a few heavily taxed, and therefore prosperous, fortunes made by private individuals.

Had they exempted the householder and potential householder from the land charge of the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act and been content with say, a 50 per cent instead of 100 per cent charge, there would never have been the public clamour that quite inevitably led to its repeal. That Act at least did not confiscate, and since it was more or less based upon the recommendations of the Shaw Committee set up to study the problems of betterment and compensation by a coalition government (with a Conservative majority) it could have been drafted to receive all-party support. Perhaps even the betterment levy of the Land Commission Act could have survived with the same exemptions and no threats of an ever-increasing rate of levy.

To nationalize all development land, confiscate all development value, exclude private initiative and erect further barriers to industrial investment can only create far greater social and economic problems than those that it is supposed to cure, invite an Opposition undertaking to repeal, and in the meantime, while neither controlling land prices nor recovering betterment, leave the property and development world in a state of uncertainty and chaos.

Sir Frederick Corfield

For me to write a column about the Clay Cross scandal without mentioning the part played in it by the Attorney-General will take, as you may imagine, some doing; to write two, which is what I shall be doing today and tomorrow, requires on my part a positively superhuman forbearance. Nevertheless, I must forbear; for the aspect of the scandal which I want to discuss is far more important, and far less widely known about, than the conduct of one particular politician.

The facts are all on public record, though I have to say to my shame that until recently I did not know about most of them, and it was not I who put them together; the Labour was done by Mr Austin Mitchell of Yorkshire Television, who worked on a programme about Clay Cross, based upon researches which had led to a long article by him in the *Political Quarterly* last year. The article is a model of scrupulously-documented investigation, reporting, and I have with the permission of the magazine's editor and of Mr Mitchell drawn heavily on it for my columns of today and tomorrow. And I write these now because the final Commons votes of the disgraceful Clay Cross (Indemnity) Bill are to be taken tomorrow, and because it is clear that there is widespread ignorance, not least among MPs, of what actually took place at Clay Cross; when even so experienced a politician as the *Guardian's* editor put his name to a motion which suggests that the former Clay Cross councillors have been hard done by, some enlightenment is urgently required, so that even if Labour MPs vote for the Indemnity Bill tomorrow night, they will at any rate know exactly whom, as well as what, they are voting for. Last month, I described the Clay Cross councillors as having turned the place into "a private fief, a

brigade's domain where public money was strewn about like corn to further their political aims". It now appears that I very seriously understated the case, and I shall now proceed to put that right.

Clay Cross is a mining area, and has suffered for years from economic decline, high unemployment and general neglect. Early in the 1960s the virtually moribund local Labour Party was captured by a group of left wingers, prominent among whom was the Skinner family, whose most egregious member (and to be the most egregious member of that family is no small achievement) is the now-month-old Dennis, now MP for Bolsover, and by 1963 Labour held all 11 seats on the Clay Cross Council.

The political complexion of the area, combined with the absence of a ward system, meant that it was virtually impossible to displace any of them electorally, and the local party's coupon was a ticket to the council chamber for as long as the councilmen lived. The corollary was that its withdrawal meant political extinction, as no fewer than eight Labour councillors in a decade discovered when they failed to follow the local party line.

Once entrenched in Skinnerville, as some local people began to call it (there were eventually four of them on the council, plus Dag on the municipal council), they proceeded to turn it into a kind of Tammany version of New Lanark, putting their political ideas into practice irrespective of the rules, the ratepayers, the district auditor or the law. Their principle was simple: it was to use public money as political hand-outs, on a scale that brings to mind those "ample donations" as Gibson calls them, which the Skippers and their associates gave in the hopes of confirming themselves in power. Unfortunately, there was no Praetorian Guard to dispatch the Skippers and their asso-

Bernard Levin

Enlightenment is needed, and if Labour MPs vote tomorrow for the Indemnity Bill they will know now what they are voting for

ciates, and perhaps their greatest single offence was to turn a decent and normal community into a town bitterly divided between spivs and spongers on the one hand and those who were compelled to foot the bill for the spongers on the other.

Bound by a party discipline reminiscent of the Soviet Politburo, the Clay Cross Klan went to work. They started with a long overdue programme of slum clearance; despite the enormous cost of this project, the rents of council houses (there were nearly 1,600 of them) in a total electorate of only 7,000 were deliberately kept low even by the standards of the most heavily-subsidized housing in the land; Clay Cross council rents were the lowest in the

entire country. (Ten of the eleven erring councillors lived in subsidized council property themselves.) The rates, on the other hand, and the deficit on the housing account, rapidly grew; by 1970 the latter was equivalent to a levy of more than eight new pence in the pound, and the proportion of the housing account paid for by the rates was six times the national average. Essential services were neglected to keep council houses rents ludicrously low; even for a new house, for instance, the rent was only £150 a week. The district auditor warned the Klan that it had a legal duty to keep a proper balance between the interests of the ratepayers and those of the tenants; he was ignored, and for a time the Klan even proposed to sell municipal land worth £30,000 and bolster the subsidy with that. The transfer of more than £24,000 (the equivalent of the 5p rate I mentioned) was challenged before the district auditor, who agreed that a public inquiry was necessary. A resident's association came into being to fight the growing scandal, and eventually the Klan made a tactical withdrawal; they put only three-quarters of the deficit on the rates, and raised rents by four shillings a week. Meanwhile, the district auditor revealed that there had been overpayments of thousands of pounds to building contractors; rent and rate arrears had doubled with little attempt to collect either. (Most of the goings-on, of course, took place in the years of the 1964-70 Labour Government.)

One of the saddest aspects of the story is the way in which the community has become demoralized, as well as divided, under the Klan's rule; the council's disastrous financial state was repaid at the polls, where the residents' association failed to win a single seat in the face of public support for the hand-out policy. (The ruthless discipline of the Klan's Politbureau

was effective, though on one occasion they went too far, denouncing one of the Labour dissenters as a Tory, in print, and finding themselves obliged to pay him over £2,000 in legal damages. For all I know Mr Mitchell is silent on this point, they tried to put that on the rates too.)

Criticism of the Klan's headlong career of chicanery was discouraged; a town meeting called Open Forum, had traditionally followed council meetings, but the practice was abolished. When the former leader of the Klan himself saw the economy of what was going on and discarded himself from the grosser conduct of his colleagues, he was deposed, refused the party ticket and politically extinguished. When the clerk to the council, who had tried to snail up the Klan some sense of responsibility, went away to a conference, they took the opportunity to sack her while she was gone. Later, the chief financial officer declined to pay increases of 1 more than the norm to council workers (another thing the Klan had done, in traditional Tammany style, was to stuff the payroll, engaging numbers of workers who were not needed, trebling the workforce in doing so) he was threatened with dismissal, and when the clerk recorded that the subsequent decision to pay the money was "taken under duress, particularly having regard to... the authority of the Chief Financial Officer", this statement was expunged from the council minutes by the Klan.

There is a great deal more to come; and note that everything I have so far described took place under a Labour Government, and before the battle over the Housing Finance Act which has led to the public scandal of an indemnity for the councillors who refused to apply it. I shall tell the rest of the story tomorrow.

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A questioning America, searching for the answers

What is the state of American politics today? Geoffrey Smith in the first of three articles describes how confidence in the political process is ebbing away.

It was hardly to be expected that politicians would be enjoying the popularity charts in the United States these days. That would have required a quite remarkably forbearing nation in the aftermath of Vietnam, to say nothing of an energy crisis and an arbitrary economy. But the extent to which confidence in the political process, in its integrity and its capability, has ebbed away is notable. The political parties are fleeing their hold on the electorate. There are now more voters who dislike most of what they see in both parties than approve of either. There is no longer the old belief that when the Government intervenes it generally has a fair chance of achieving its objective, or at least doing some good.

This mood of cynicism has provoked three different kinds of response. There has been the rise of the anti-political, anti-establishment parties, such as the New York Conservative Party, with becoming modesty. "I'm no politician, I'm just a Messiah." There have been vigorous efforts to correct the procedures by which politicians are elected and decisions taken. And there has been a determination to reexamine the policies themselves. All three trends are to be found in sharpest relief in California, where the custom is not to do things by halves.

To select Governor Jerry

Brown as the epitome of the new politician is not to lend a willing shoulder to his personal bandwagon. It is far too soon for any balanced appraisal of a Governor who took office only at the beginning of this year and who has so far attracted attention more for his style than his achievements. But the essence of that style is the deliberate break with the past. Not for him the governor's mansion, but a modest apartment—"distinctly modest", his staff emphasize with puritanical relish. His official car is more modest than custom would dictate. He has cut the budget for his own office and the pay of most of his aides. Two of the features of his regime on which these aides dwell with particular approval is his refusal to indulge in traditional wheeler-dealing and his appointment to office of people without strong political bias or previous experience of state government.

The issue on which Governor Brown rode to office was what is known as Proposition Nine, a complex set of proposals for regulating campaign finance, conflicts of interest, and the activities of lobbyists. Furthermore, there are to be far more state primaries than ever before so as to give the electorate at large a greater say in the choice of candidate by the respective parties.

The purpose of all these measures is clear enough. All of them are designed to make the practice of democracy accord more with the principles, to bring a greater openness to the political process



Governor Jerry Brown: a deliberate break with the past

made available to Presidential candidates, matching the contributions raised privately up to a specified level, provided that certain stringent conditions are met. Furthermore, there are to be far more state primaries than ever before so as to give the electorate at large a greater say in the choice of candidate by the respective parties.

The purpose of all these measures is clear enough. All of them are designed to make the practice of democracy accord more with the principles, to bring a greater openness to the political process

and to restrict the influence of powerful interest groups or party managers. The need for reform requires little argument after Watergate. But the dangers are also apparent: that the rules may be drawn so rigidly that they are either ignored because reasonable men judge them to be unworkable or that they actually make it more difficult to reach sensible decisions.

Proposition Nine has been enacted in California and a Fair Political Practices Commission has been established to implement it under an earnest young lawyer, Mr Daniel Loewenstein, who can none the less consider his task with a sense of proportion and humour, not a uniform quality among the Governor's men. He will need to keep his balance because some people have been losing their heads in deciding what they must do to comply with the new spirit of the times. There are even reports of offers to pay for home hospitalization, which suggests a double social hazard: how to broach the subject to one's hostess and how to ensure that one opens the bidding at a level that does not affront her. Mr Loewenstein is not proposing such absurdities but they are a reminder that the line between virtue and farce is a narrow one.

But the American mood is to question policies as well as processes. Here too Governor Brown has brought his own distinctive style and in this respect also he is in tune with the popular trend. It is one of profound scepticism. Noting

the disenchantment with government, and the movement of public opinion towards conservatism, some observers have concluded that there is now a demand for a sharp reduction in governmental activity. The day of big government and big public spending is coming to an end on this reading, but that is too simple an interpretation. The disillusionment with government marches step by step with a growing demand for some form of comprehensive public medical system, whether or not on the lines of the National Health Service. More than 90 per cent of those polled now favour this and among politicians there is a clear feeling that this is an idea whose time has come. The conservatism of the public is to be found more on economic than on social questions: in the present recession it is still believed that it is up to the Government to get the economy going again.

What Governor Brown represents is simply a determination to question. He does not accept that a government programme, properly financed, is the natural answer to every problem. "Justify it," he says in effect. He wants, as it were, to pull up each policy by the roots, examine it and replant only when satisfied. This is certainly a means of challenging existing orthodoxies, but not of putting a new one in their place. Throughout the United States today one is conscious of old ideas being questioned but not of new ones being developed.

Geoffrey Smith

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The Times Diary

Talking to Britons on the way out

In the queue for the 3.30 boat train to Calais a retired management consultant said he was leaving Britain without regret. "I decided in 1950 that there was no future for the entrepreneur in Britain, and set up in Rome and Zurich. In 1964 the trend was confirmed and I moved all my affairs abroad. My relief that I did so is tinged with pity. I have been visiting friends and relations for two weeks and I have not met a single happy person. Right up to top business management, everyone is desperate to get out, or to be a state employee. It is the only future they can see."

Asked what they would like to find when they returned five people independently suggested Tony Benn out of office; two hoped for the same fate for Harold Wilson, and a mechanic from Coventry said: "My job open, everybody working hard and newspapers with cricket on the front page."

Impoverished

What must be the forerunner of all benefit concerts celebrates its 321st birthday in St Paul's Cathedral tonight when cathedral choirs assemble for the Festival of the Sons of the Clergy. This annual singalong is unique in that the Lord Mayor of London and the Archbishop of Canterbury appear together on stage.

The charity provides financial help for overburdened and impoverished parish priests. Last year barely 500 turned up for

the Festival, and they looked rather sparse among the 3,300 seats of St Paul's. Considering that the object is to raise money the expenses of tonight's occasion are formidable. Choirs are being imported from the Anglican cathedrals of Armagh, Edinburgh and Llandaff, and their travel and hotel rooms have to be paid. Nonetheless the Festival should break even.

Luckily some astute property dealing in north London has enabled the administrators of the funds to keep pace with demand. Handouts to underpaid priests reached £320,000 last year.

Last year the Corporation bought eleven houses for the use of retired priests, and this year it plans to buy eleven more. According to Brigadier Ian Christie, the organizer, many parish priests have to carry on working beyond retirement age because they cannot afford to give up.

Traditionally it has been the parish itself which has supported its priest, helping with his telephone, his car and other running expenses, but these are hard times and one diocese has just bought its priests a fleet of mopeds to replace their cars.

Specialist

Not all parish priests spend their retirement in indigence and inactivity. Dr Donald Omand, retired vicar of Chideock in Dorset, departs today for a three-week tour of the United States lecturing on what his press agent describes

as "demon possession, exorcism and kindred subjects".

Dr Omand, who since he retired from his parochial duties claims to have performed exorcisms in 15 countries, is no stranger to the stage. He is currently fashionable subject. His book, *Experiences of A Present Day Exorcist*, is about to be followed by another.

Since the appearance of the film *The Exorcist*, the United States has found itself surprisingly short of experts in this field. In the Church as in most other professions, it pays to specialize.

Rag and bones

The Guildhall School of Music and Drama is launching an appeal for pre-war lumber. It is, they say, hard to keep their students supplied with old materials and props for their three operas and dozen or so drama productions every year.

"We need," said the school's new drama mistress, Daphne Newton, "a deep breath, shoes, fans, parasols, collars, whalebones, long hampers, powder compacts, bedding, china, glass, rugs, linen and pictures—and we get through yards and yards of trimming."

Tight

Paul Sarony, the impresario who is bringing the Tokyo Ballet to Britain, will pointedly not be inviting the Japanese ambassador to their performances. He is angry that the Japanese have, as he sees it, failed to reciprocate the hospitality extended by the British at the other end of the ballet exchange, while the Royal Ballet are touring in Japan.

The British embassy in Japan have been pouring out the hospitality during the ballet company's visit and the Royal

It's the Tribune Group:

they want to buy any surplus 'Wilson must go' posters...



tour", he says, "despite our economic crisis. But the Japanese here say they cannot afford to do anything at all and they have not even helped us with providing an interpreter or meeting the dancers at the stations. The embassy has been just incredibly apathetic, considering that the tour is underwritten by the Japanese government."

While the Swedes are arranging all the customary junketings for their Copenhagen Ballet, who will also be in London this month, the Japanese dancers (who are used to being underprivileged—they often have to make their own costumes at home) are to be welcomed to Britain by the Mayor of Bournemouth, where they open next week.

PHS



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THE SOCIAL CRISIS

The Prime Minister's complacency on Sunday has got its just reward in the pound's continued sharp depreciation on the foreign exchange markets yesterday. Yet, if there is one thing more misjudged than Mr Wilson's pretence that the nation is suffering from nothing worse than a bout of irrational jitteriness induced by his own absence from the country for a few days, it is the much more widespread opinion that the foreign exchange price of sterling is in one way the hub of our troubles.

That opinion misses the fundamental seriousness of Britain's political and social crisis as completely as Mr Wilson's apparent belief that his chief problem is to plunge a knife into Mr Benn's ribs before the Secretary of Industry plunges one into the Prime Minister's back. If Britain's problem were as simple as either the price of the pound or the posturing of Mr Benn, then indeed we would have little to fear and Mr Wilson could be the man of the hour.

The accommodation of the pound's external purchasing power to the more rapid

deterioration of its internal purchasing power than that of the currencies in which its foreign exchange price is expressed is no matter in itself for alarm. When the pound at home is losing half its value every three years, as it will at the present rate, there is no salvation in artificially bolstering the external value of the pound by precarious, unconvincing and conditional borrowing abroad. How much the authorities intervene to smooth the downward adjustment is a technical matter best left to the Treasury, provided they intervene in the spirit that price rigging, if persisted in, usually recoils on the heads of the price tiggers.

What really matters is that the social contract—not Mr Wilson's subterfuge for an incomes policy, but Jean-Jacques Rousseau's notion of the basis of consent which makes social life practicable—is being rejected on almost every hand. Such faith as people may ever have had in the ideal of a society in which individuals, through the ballot box and the market place, were sovereign over private and public concentrations of power, seems to have been displaced by a

general, if reluctant, recognition that strength lies in belonging to the big battalions and that power consists in the collective ability to blackmail society.

This is the crisis of our country, not the falling pound, or the threat of de-industrialization or even the galloping inflation, though each of these is in its way partly a symptom of the decay of a society which has seemingly and for the moment lost the will to live by general and just rules in an association of mutual advantage. It is the function of political leadership to alert the country to the dangers and, even more importantly, to call forth the hope, the effort and the restraint that will once again allow the mutual advantage to be harvested and the scrap over the spoils to abate.

Because the crisis is of this kind and because the symptoms—the weak pound, low investment, union recalcitrance, disrespect for law and regional fission—would rapidly heal once the social spirit was cured, it is wrong to judge events in too short a perspective. The die will not be cast in the next few days, weeks or even months.

Near the end of the line

From Lord Rotherham
Sir, Your leading article "Near the end of the line" (May 8) brings squarely into public discussion what many people have been saying more or less openly for some time: including in my own acquaintance politicians, civil servants and businessmen.

The root of the problem, from which most of our present troubles, including the economic ones, spring, is that Britain is already ungovernable in certain areas, and has been since before the 1970 election. At that time the trade unions forced the then government to abjure both its incomes policy, and its attempts to place any restrictions on the power of the unions. Since then, governments can make their writ run in most of the fields where they wish to do so. But they cannot stop inflation, and they cannot prevent the industrial life of the country being brought to a stop by any of a number of groups of workers, sometimes comparatively small ones.

In this area conditions have become anarchic, since the TUC can exert even less power than the government of the country. The only principle recognized by all trade unions is that none of them shall do anything to render each others' depredations ineffective, by handling breaking goods, let alone by strike-breaking. This gives what is basically a negative power, to stop industry but not to start it, to impede production but not to increase it, to raise prices but not to stabilize them. It thus resembles the powers exercised by blackmailers or kidnappers, to inflict damage if one's demands are not met.

To say that the country is ungovernable is of course to criticize those who purport to govern it. If they cannot do it, we must get somebody who can. You, Sir, do not find the answer easy and neither do I. But surely the need is for a leader who has the majority of the country behind him, and who has enough courage to persuade that majority that the time has come to fight.

Only the event will show whether we have such a leader, but the argument for proportional representation is that it will ensure that the only viable government in future will be one that represents a substantial majority of the electorate. The traditional argument against it is that it leads to coalition governments and that these are inevitably weak. This case against coalitions was eloquently restated in the Labour Party manifesto for the last election. Subsequent events have shown that the absence of a coalition safeguard against weak government.

We are indeed near the end of our present line. But it is almost inconceivable that this great country, the admiration of the world only a few years ago, should by now have lost the willpower to surmount much worse troubles than those which now confront us.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT THALL,
34 Mansel Street, SW1,
May 8.

From Mr P. R. Butcher
Sir, Your editorial today (May 8) argued that Britain must collapse before it can recover from her present economic, social and political decline, because the will to reform our nation does not yet exist and is more likely to be created by suffer-

ing than by wisdom. Yet you suggest that the great majority of our people, in the middle, eschew extremism, cherish liberty and desire moderate yet effective government by an administration capable of inspiring respect and trust.

If this is true, as I believe it is, the great majority of the electorate is awaiting the political initiative at Westminster without which our democratic tradition forbids us to act. The onus now lies with those Members of Parliament who are capable of rising above party politics and joining together to give the country the government it needs.

I have no doubt of the electoral support for the right kind of initiative by the right kind of people. Yours faithfully,
P. R. BUTCHER,
2/20 Netherhall Gardens, NW3,
May 8.

From Dr E. Notridge
Sir, If the Labour Party would separate itself from its alien left wing and if Mr Wilson would lead an emergency government of all who would defend what is best in our national life, surely the nation would rally to him with relief and gratitude. The national interest and electoral advantage combine.

I belong to no party and I suspect the fault lies not in our system but in ourselves. Yours faithfully,
EDWARD NOTTIDGE,
Chelmsford, Essex,
May 11.

From Mr L. T. Gorrings
Sir, Might one assume that you will now use your influence as the leader of the press to achieve "a revolution in the spirit of the nation" by giving fair weight in your main pages to our good points? Or will you continue to give undue emphasis to our defects and divisions?

Yours faithfully,
L. T. GORRINGS,
9 Quinton Rise,
Oadby,
Leicestershire,
May 11.

From Mr David Le Vay
Sir, Your leading article today (May 8) is a stunning piece of diagnosis, but the line of treatment is left rather vague. What are we to do? What, in God's name, are we to do? What makes you think that a proletarian revolution is impossible here? Balzac wrote: "If a nation has grown old, if a liking for sophism and discussion has corrupted it to the marrow of its bones, the most effective remedy towards despotism despite the outward forms of liberty." We reassure ourselves that a Marxist government is a non-runner in this country when all we need to do to ensure one is to do nothing.

Never forget Trotsky's definition of revolution: a blow at a paralytic. And are we not all paralysed with inaction under the stifling blanket of Micawberism the socialists have flung over us? Yours faithfully,
DAVID LE VAY,
Old Buckhurst South,
Withyham, near Hartfield,
Sussex,
May 8.

and she cannot possibly be unaware that "subsidized lecture tours" are the perquisite of only a small proportion of university teachers. "Regular foreign travel" may mean long way—good luck to her—but I can assure her that there are very many teachers of foreign languages in our universities who are hardly able to afford even the occasional research visit to overseas libraries, let alone the "regular" visits they need to keep in touch with foreign culture.

Yours faithfully,
W. D. HOWARTH,
University of Bristol,
Department of French,
Wills Memorial Building,
Queen's Road,
Bristol 8,
May 9.

From Professor D. R. Denman
Sir, The University teachers have cause to be incensed over stagnant stipends. Injustice is seen to be done. But their plight is also their opportunity to respond to their grievances with that due sense of responsibility so necessary to our national survival and which is lacking in the attitudes of militant industrial workers and even in the attitude of other professions.

Someone must refuse to use the blackened weapons of strike action—and thereby give a lead to the weaker characters in our society. No academic worthy of his calling is in his job for the money; to see it so would be to accept the meagre stipends of the universities as measures of the worth of those that receive them. This has never been the case. How can we price the priceless?

Yours faithfully,
D. R. DENMAN,
Pembroke College, Cambridge,
May 7.

violence against children. If we concentrate upon environmental problems, such as poverty or housing we create sympathy, but at a price. The price is that we are less sympathetic to those who injure their children out of inner desperation and misery. Thus we may neglect the middle class "battering" parent who urgently needs help. And we may insult the poor by assuming their problems may be solely environmental.

The task for us all, difficult indeed, is to seek to extend our understandings to all those involved in complex and tragic situations when children are at risk. The temptation to find scapegoats is powerful.

Yours sincerely,
OLIVE STEVENSON,
Reader in Applied Social Studies and Fellow,
St Anne's College,
Oxford,
May 3.

Threat to British citizens in Cyprus

From Mrs Lena Jeger, Labour MP for Camden, Holborn and St Pancras, South

Sir, I was sadly glad to read in *The Times* today (May 7) your report that, immediately after the Vienna talks on Cyprus, Mr Denktash contributed to the *aching need* for détente by threatening to sell off British goods in Cyprus as a reprisal for property left behind when Turkish Cypriot refugees were ferried to Turkey from British bases, en route for their return to take over Greek Cypriot and United Kingdom properties in northern Cyprus.

Sad because, having just returned from Cyprus, I realize from first hand the anxieties and impoverishment of all the people whose homes are in Turkish-occupied Cyprus. But Her Majesty's Government has a special responsibility for United Kingdom citizens in the island and they feel bitter as orphans at the total ineptitude and ineffectiveness of Parliament. Glad because, at last, the Foreign Office might begin to break off its strange love affair with Turkey.

In the House of Commons last Friday Mr Hattersley could only say on this subject that HMG had sent a lot of protests. He suggested that the American Congress arms ban on Turkey had "hardened" Turkish attitudes. So what has the soft attitude of our Foreign Office effected? I believe that when Mr Callaghan, to the fury of the Greeks, facilitated the exodus of the Turkish Cypriots in the bases, he sincerely hoped for a response from Turkey about the Greek Cypriot refugees.

Now he knows that the only response he is getting is a threat from Mr Denktash to impoverish and persecute further the United Kingdom citizens who remain in Cyprus.

Many of them are old and poor—often retired colonial service personnel who had lost all practical ties with the United Kingdom during long years of work overseas and settled in Cyprus with their modest life savings because it was a Commonwealth country with a friendly climate and friendly people. Others are working in Cyprus as doctors, teachers—and, for instance, one is a chicken farmer. These people have lost everything. And it is their belongings that Mr Denktash is threatening to sell off as a reprisal for the Foreign Secretary's compassionate action over Turkish Cypriot refugees. At the time Mr Callaghan said he would not have these refugees used as pawns. But now the United Kingdom citizens are Turkey's pawns and what is Her Majesty's Government doing?

I can tell you. I have a copy of one of the most extraordinary documents in history. It was circulated to UK citizens by our High Commission in Nicosia. It advised them

that they may investigate the possibility of instituting legal proceedings in Turkey. I quote:

"Claimants should seek private legal advice on this question and must decide for themselves whether to take action. [ie, HMG is not going to help.] However, the HMG are given to understand that a remedy for injury, damage, etc, may possibly exist in the Turkish courts, the failure of UK nationals to test such a remedy could be prejudicial to possible future governmental handling of claims of this kind. The Turkish Law requires any such legal action to be initiated within one year of the incidence of injury, damage or loss."

Then comes the splendidly helpful paragraph: "HMG can accept no responsibility for the accuracy of the foregoing information relating to the law of Turkey or for the consequences of any action which might be taken in the light of it."

So a retired army nurse with a little cottage in Bellapais, which she has had to leave, is supposed to travel to Ankara and sue Turkish lawyers, find witnesses and sue whom? The Turkish Government, the Turkish Army? And meanwhile Mr Denktash threatens to finally take over the cottage which is all she has. Her possessions have already gone—the Turkish soldiers took what they wanted and broke what they did not desire. And what is HMG doing? As a British MP I have never been so ashamed at not finding an answer.

But it is not only United Kingdom citizens who complain about Turkish intransigence. Representatives of the International Red Cross and neutral United Nations officers all complain that the mainland Turks were not taking any notice of anybody.

So what can we do? We should start by joining the United States Congress ban on arms to Turkey. It is incontestable that British taxpayers, through our contribution to NATO, are subsidizing the 40,000 mainland Turks in Cyprus who are robbing and looting United Kingdom citizens. To say nothing of Greek Cypriots.

I think HMG should make some ex gratia payments to impoverished United Kingdom citizens. And it they have to seek redress in Ankara then legal aid should be provided. Cases could possibly be brought to the Human Rights Court at Strasbourg. Maybe it is time the Council of Europe withdrew its member as Greece no longer ago. And perhaps somebody could answer the question put to me by a Greek Cypriot refugee (a British army serviceman) in a painfully tidy tent: "What does it mean, being a member of Commonwealth?"

Yours sincerely,
LENA M. JEGGER,
House of Commons,
May 7.

Planning control

From Mr George Dobry, QC

Sir, The suggestion made by Mr David Widdicombe, QC (May 10) and by Justice is characteristically constructive. A twelve year limit for the enforcement of change of use seems reasonable and fair. It will help hard-pressed conveyancers and remove uncertainty. This proposal should have been included in my Report on Development Control, but was not. I am sorry.

I should also like to say that since the publication of my report I have received strong indications of continuing disquiet, especially among architects, about the delays and constraint from which they suffer.

Yours etc
GEORGE DOBRY,
2 Paper Buildings,
Temple, EC4,
May 10.

Maritime progress

From Captain G. R. Hughes

Sir, Vice-Admiral McGeech's letter is timely (April 30). Any student of British maritime history will know that a consequence of the Industrial Revolution was the revelation of glaring inadequacies in the knowledge of shipbuilders, shipowners, and particularly of British seafarers, in the early nineteenth century.

It was unfortunate for British shipping that the Select Committee of 1836 were not fully accepted and the Chairman's Bill rejected by Parliament in 1837 largely through the opposition of shipowners and the then President of the Board of Trade. The Bill proposed a commission with pretty much the same composition as that suggested by Admiral McGeech and had it been established there is little doubt that our standards, in the widest sense, would have developed in the universities to the benefit of the nation. As it happens the impetus for the development of these studies has come largely from those professional seamen who are engaged in nautical education.

In many ways we are now experiencing a similar period of change brought about by rapid developments in marine technology, but I fear that we are ill prepared to cope with the consequences of this development which will demand professional seamen with vastly different qualities than those at sea today. I hasten to add not qualities of character, but certainly of training and education.

Our present system is not sufficiently flexible to provide the kind of people required to man ships in 10 years' time and it will need the intervention of Commissioners or some similar agency to cause Government and the industry to accept that as it takes some 10 years to train a shipmaster, we should be giving serious thought to this question in the very near future.

In our institutions of higher education, that is the universities and polytechnics, we are around us people from almost every area of study groping for knowledge of all aspects of maritime affairs as the realization dawns on them that the sea is important, especially to this country. Unless we organize our affairs more intelligently than we have in the past, we may well find ourselves in the very near future

placed at a disadvantage compared with other maritime nations especially those newly emerging as maritime powers. Yours faithfully,
G. R. HUGHES,
Vice-President of the Nautical Institute,
As from Plymouth Polytechnic,
Drake Circus, Plymouth.

Bram Fischer

From Mr Arthur Crook

Sir, Your Johannesburg Correspondent commenting on the last sad phase of the Bram Fischer affair reports that: "In an attempt to salvage the government's dignity, Mr James Kruger, Minister of Justice and Prisons, said that the authorities were prepared to arrange with Mr Fischer's relatives for the disposal of the ashes."

What dignity? The little mercy and lesser compassion shown by Fischer and to those relatives during the closing moments of his life have sown scepticism and doubt among many non-South African onlookers who have tried to believe in the sincerity of that government's efforts to ease its relations with other African countries and with its own non-white nationals.

No friend of South Africa (black as well as white) would wish to see Fischer's funeral turned into a demonstration against political intolerance and inequality or against the pernicious evils and indignities of apartheid; but surely there should be no governmental intrusions into private grief.

Your biographical notice of Fischer ends: "His wife, Molly, died in a car crash in 1965 and his son, Paul, from an illness in April, 1971." That one sentence encompasses a major part of the near-Greek tragedy that was Bram Fischer's life. There is, though, no acknowledgment of the loyalty and devotion of his two daughters, Ilse and Ruth, whose persistent pressure and pleadings on their father's behalf did much to secure his last temporary respite from his gaolers. For the one, the struggle was continued between daily visits from Johannesburg to the Pretoria prison; for the other, it meant the temporary desertion of family in Rhodesia to be near and to comfort a much loved father. Small wonder that Mr Kruger was reported as saying: "If I ever find myself in similar circumstances, I only hope that my own family would be as steadfast as Bram's."

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR CROOK,
70 Reesor's Park Road, NW1,
May 12.

Heaven's angels

From Mr F. A. Sowen

Sir, Why do the Bishop of Norwich's clergy not, like Saint Francis, walk—except "in case of sickness or absolute necessity"? Why do they not use push-bikes? They would then make real front-page news and allay one's Sunday morning suspicions that Christianity is essentially a branch of private morning prayer—the religion of twentieth-century England.

Yours faithfully,
F. A. SOWAN,
11 Chaucer Cottages,
Pilgrims' Way,
South Croydon,
May 11.

LAOS UNDER COMMUNIST CONTROL

The Americans withdrew from Laos nearly a year ago after ten years of military activity which included heavy bombing and some heavy ground fighting by American advisers. They never committed American forces to full combat operations on the ground, so they could withdraw with less damage to their prestige and to local stability than in Vietnam. They were able to leave behind them a delicate coalition government in which the Pathet Lao communists were included. It always looked delicate longer if it had not been rocked by the shock waves emanating from Vietnam and Cambodia.

To this limited extent a little of the hoary old domino theory is being vindicated, but only because the Americans brought about the very situation they were trying to prevent. Had they not believed in their own prophecies they would not have tried to build up the client states which did so much to mobilize nationalist communist movements against them. American "prophecies" contributed to bringing about their own partial fulfilment.

But the real essence of the domino theory is still very far from vindicated. The area that is to be known as Indo-China,

but which is in fact a group of very different countries, is not being taken over by the Chinese, the North Vietnamese, the Russians, or "international communism". Nor will the struggles of that area be extended automatically or in the same form to Burma, Malaysia, the Philippines, or South Korea. All these countries will be affected by the changing constellations of power, but they are too different to be seen as dominoes.

Even within former Indo-China each new government will find its own way of blending elements of communist ideology with older traditions and national aspirations. Already there has been a very sharp contrast between the way in which the Khmer Rouge took over Phnom Penh, brutally driving out the inhabitants, and the way in which the Vietnamese took over Saigon, allowing life to continue with, so far, relatively little change.

The pattern in Vietnam will doubtless be different again. Although the North Vietnamese have been involved in insurgent movements in other countries, notably in Cambodia, they do not control them, and they seem unlikely to control the governments which are now emerging from them. Moreover they have

not been noticeably involved with insurgents in Thailand and Burma, and they will have even less influence farther afield. They have been concerned primarily with the struggle in South Vietnam.

Nor will the Chinese or the Russians enjoy undisputed control. They will find themselves at odds not only with each other but with strong national feelings and different cultures. Even in Vietnam, which has close historical, cultural and political ties with China, there is proud nationalism to contend with as well as an interest in heavy industrial products which are more easily available in Moscow than in Peking.

It therefore remains wrong to see recent events in Saigon, Phnom Penh and Vientiane as the beginning of an Asian slide into something that can be neatly packaged and labelled communism. Western influence, which helped to crystallize the forces which are now emerging, is diminishing. In its place there will be a struggle for influence among many conflicting forces, both indigenous and external. As in many post-colonial situations the West will have to take a back seat for a while. But at least it can avoid prophecies liable to bring about their own fulfilment.

THE LESSONS OF FLIXBOROUGH

Although twenty-eight people died in the Flixborough disaster last year, the explosion was so violent that casualties could have been far worse. It occurred at a weekend when comparatively few of the staff were on the site, and the Nypro factory (unlike some other plants where equally dangerous chemicals are handled) did not have many people living close to it. The report of the court of inquiry into the accident clearly establishes the errors of management and engineering which led to the explosion, but it does not go far towards answering the wider questions that the incident raises.

More than once the report remarks that the owners of the plant, like the chemical industry generally, are very safety conscious. Yet they obviously were not sufficiently so, if an accident of this kind could happen without any extraordinary negligence on anyone's part. The design and construction of the factory seem to have been satisfactory: the fatal leak of gas as the result of changes made

so that a defective part could be taken out of service. The alterations were inadequate, partly because the post of works engineer was vacant at the time.

It is true, as the report says, that no degree of precaution can wholly eliminate the risk of disaster. It may even be possible, as it adds, to multiply safeguards to a point where complexity and complacency actually increase the risk. But without criticizing the design of this particular plant, it is clear that a factory design needs not only to be safe in its integral form, but also to facilitate the numerous repairs and adjustments that are likely to be made during its lifetime.

Because the accident took place before the law on industrial safety has been thoroughly recast, it is impossible to say at this early stage whether the new system, with extra powers for health and safety inspectors and greatly increased penalties for infringement of the regulations, will be more effective than the old in eliminating dangers of this kind. A committee has been set up under the legislation as a result of the explosion to examine the broader problems

raised by industries that present major hazards. It will be able to follow the matter much further than the court of inquiry has done, and into very difficult fields.

The hazards of a new process are often hard to determine beforehand. Are they adequately assessed before planning permission is given? With nuclear power stations the usual practice is to build them well away from centres of population (at some detriment to our national parks and coastline). Should similar restrictions more often be put on other kinds of plants (where the safety precautions may be far less rigorous)? What about size? The larger the vessel, the higher the pressure, the greater the complexity—at what point do the economies of scale which still determine so much industrial planning entail unacceptable extra risks? If the question of safety is not seen to be grasped, there is a danger that public fear or prejudice may reach the point (as has happened in Japan and the United States, for instance) where technological advances of national importance are threatened.

Roman Catholic liturgy

from Commander and Mrs H. Larsham

r, Very deeply sympathizing with the very real unhappiness of the writers of the sad letters in your columns deploring the changes in the liturgy, we feel it should also be remembered that there are hundreds of thousands of ordinary Catholics who take part in the new rite of the Mass, both on Sundays and weekdays, with increasing understanding and with at least as much devotion and love as we had in the old.

ours faithfully,
UBERT MARSHAM,
ARGARET MARSHAM,
acorn's
rogham, Fordingbridge,
amphshire,
ay 6.

Light of Soviet Jews

from the Bishop of Oxford and hers

r, The past few weeks have brought increased repression to those Soviet Jews who have asked permission to emigrate. We are deeply troubled by the fact that the number of exit visas granted in the last three months of 1974 was less than half the number given in the last three months of 1973, and also the severe harassment of those who are waiting for visas. The follow-

ing are only a few of the cases that have come to our attention in the past two months.

Mark Napshtin and Boris Tsitlikov were sentenced to five years in exile for taking part in a demonstration that lasted less than a minute.

Isai and Grigory Goldstein have been threatened with prosecution for alleged violation of a decree apparently made in December 1972 but never published.

Professor Mark Azbeil was prevented from returning to his home and family in Moscow from a visit from the Soviet cities in a similar situation to their own, and of maintaining contact with friends and colleagues in the West.

The right to leave the country of one's birth is respected by most civil-

ized nations. We appeal to the Government of the USSR to acknowledge this right and not to regard those who wish to exercise it as wrong-doers. We urge the Soviet authorities to cease harassing would-be emigrants and to allow them to leave.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH OXON:
A. J. AYER,
BLAKE,
MICHAEL GELDER,
CRISPAN HOLLIS,
HANS KREBS,
R. B. LLOYD,
HUGH LLOYD-JONES,
A. G. GOSTON,
P. V. PICKSTOCK,
R. R. PORTER,
RAMSEY OF CANTERBURY,
SEGAL,
ANTHONY STORR,
RACHEL TRICKETT,
C. WITTON-DAVIES,
C. M. WOODHOUSE,
Oxford,
May 3.

Lords' decision on rape

From Mr Henry Friedheim

Sir, If I am requested by an ugly customer to hand over my wallet and do so without a fight, will he in future go free because he thought I consented?

HENRY FRIEDHEIM,
46 Meadow Road,
Wokingham, Berkshire,
May 8.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 12: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, as Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, this afternoon attended the Open Day at Larmer Tree Grounds, Toller Royal, Wiltshire.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight and was received upon arrival at Toller Royal by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County of Dorset (Colonel Sir Joseph Weld). Miss Victoria Legge Bourke was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

May 12: The Duchess of Gloucester attended the RAF Brampton Officers' Wives Annual Luncheon for the WRVS Anglo American Club.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh will attend a luncheon of the Rotary International at the Falmouth Hotel, Falmouth, on June 3.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will take part in the Golden Jubilee Weekend of the National Association of Boys' Clubs, in London on June 21 and 22.

The Duke of Kent will visit the Transport and Road Research Laboratory at Crowthorne, Berkshire, on May 22.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent will visit the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association's show at Norwich on June 25.

Princess Alexandra will be present at the Newbury of the Year presentation dinner held by the Newspaper Publishers' Association at the Savoy Hotel, on July 22.

25 years ago

From The Times of Friday, May 12, 1950

Frigate's adventures

From Our Own Correspondent: Portsmouth, May 11.—The frigate Bigbury Bay (Lieutenant-Commander G. R. P. Gooden) arrived here today to pay off. In 1947, while serving with the Royal Eastern Fleet, she took 13 Japanese war criminals to Hong Kong for trial. She was transferred to the Mediterranean Fleet, and in July, 1948, to the America and West Indies Squadron.

During her commission she has steamed 47,325 miles, 20,312 of which were in waters where the temperatures ranged from 27 to 99 deg F. In Antarctic water she encountered 1,200 icebergs, and within three days, including one that was four miles long.

During her commission the Bigbury Bay visited 20 countries and 54 ports, and received 28,885 visitors on board.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. C. Bell and Miss P. S. I. Kimmor. The engagement is announced between the elder son of Mr J. C. Bell, of Pedmore, Stourbridge, and the late Mrs P. M. Bell, and Phillips, younger daughter of Mr John and Lady Mary Blunier, of 19 Queen's Road, Cheltenham.

Mr W. R. Barr and Miss A. A. Sander. The engagement is announced between William Raymond, elder son of Mr and Mrs G. W. Barr, of Moorcroft, Fareham Common, Wokingham, Surrey, and Andrea Anastasia, daughter of Mr and Mrs Harvey P. Sander, of The Wish, Witley Lane, Chaldon, Caterham, Surrey.

Mr R. A. Cort and Miss S. M. Ekland. The engagement is announced between Robert, younger son of Mr and Mrs L. B. Cort, of Chiddington Heath, Kent, and Sheila, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs E. R. Eckland, of South Oxhey, Watford.

Mr R. C. B. Hopkins and Miss M. V. Pike. The engagement is announced between Roger, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. B. Hopkins, of Sheffield, and Marion, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs C. V. Pike, of Mylor Bridge, Cornwall.

Marriages

Mr J. Droz-Gerogot and Mrs J. Vincent. The marriage took place quietly in London on April 25 between Mr Jacques Droz-Gerogot and Mrs Jennifer Vincent.

Mr P. Ratley and Mrs F. Lane. The marriage took place quietly on May 10 between Mr Peter Ratley and Mrs Pamela Lane.

Mr C. E. Stott and Miss E. A. Pluge. The marriage took place in the chapel of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, on Saturday between Mr Charles Stott, twin son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Stott, of Tishall, Stafford, and Miss Eileen Pluge, eldest daughter of Captain Roland Pluge, Royal Navy (ret), of Little Broomham, Surrey, and Mrs Peter Liddell, of Warwick-on-Eden, Cumberland. The Rev John Oliver officiated.

The bride was attended by Emma Pluge, Sarah Adams, Richard, Vanessa and Emma Boote, and Thomas Lowther. Mr Edward Stott was best man.

A reception was held at the Royal Naval College and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Coopers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Coopers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr I. A. Norman; Upper Warden, Mr B. Achley; Under Warden, Mr L. R. Brown.

Latest appointments

The Bishop of Kingston to be president of the Pedestrians' Association for Road Safety. Mrs Jane Enley, to be co-chairman of the Women's National Commission in succession to Mrs Joan Boulton.

Dr M. R. Smith and Miss C. M. Sreenfeld

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Bryan C. Smith, of Green Park, House, Weymouth, and Mary, daughter of Lieutenant-Commander D. H. C. and Lady Moyra Streffield, of Redberry House, Sturton, Aylesbury.

Flight-Lieutenant G. R. Boulton, RAF, and Miss L. Thorne Thorne.

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Wing Commander C. E. Boulton, DFC, RAF (ret), and Miss Boulton, of 78 Tarnwood Park, SE9, and Leonie, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Beryl Thorne Thorne, of The Thatched House, Amberley, Sussex.

Dr R. A. C. Graham-Brown and Dr M. M. K. Graham. The engagement is announced between Dr Robin Graham-Brown, son of Mr and Mrs Graham-Brown, of Weald Road, Sevenoaks, and Dr Margaret Graham, daughter of Dr and Mrs Graham, of Spencer Avenue, Weybridge.

Mr A. Sheppard and Miss A. Clerke Brown. The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs D. C. Sheppard, of Ashwell, Hertfordshire, and Angela, daughter of Colonel and Mrs A. Clerke Brown, of Kingston Blount, Oxfordshire.

University news

St Andrews. Grant: £12,500 from the British Heart Foundation to Dr A. S. D. Macfarlane for a study of cardiac forces on the heart.

Glasgow. Grants: £15,000 from the Department of Naval Science to Professor D. J. W. Sim for a study of the effect of the sea on the human body.

£20,000 from the Medical Research Council to Dr J. R. K. Kneel for a study of the effect of the sea on the human body.

£15,000 from the Science Research Council to Professor R. A. D. Macfarlane for a study of the effect of the sea on the human body.

The following lecturers have been appointed:

F. Harper, BSc, PhD, Agriculture, University of Reading.

Nottingham. Appointment: Dr S. J. D. Macfarlane to Lord Trent chair of pharmacology in succession to the late Professor M. W. Partridge.

Wales. Appointment: Professor R. R. Rees, MA (Oxon), PhD (Wales), to the Faculty of Arts in the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, in succession to the late Professor J. S. D. Macfarlane.

Reading. Readerships: Dr P. R. Corner, BA (Cantab), DPhil (Oxon), to the Chair of History, University of Reading.

Dr J. S. D. Macfarlane, to the Chair of History, University of Reading.

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Family 'trifle dish' fetches £17,000

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Mr Arthur Povey, of Dorchester, Dorset, was assured of the purchase price of a new house yesterday when his Ming dish was sold at Christie's to £17,000.

The dish, a long rectangular piece of blue and white porcelain, decorated with a landscape scene, was one of a pair of similar pieces which Mr Povey was selling before moving into a furnished flat, and his eye was caught by the dish.

The dish dates from the early fifteenth century and is decorated in underglaze blue with peonies and other flowers. Christie's had estimated £8,000 to £12,000, but the fact that the dish was in almost mint condition, despite the trifle, carried the competition far higher.

The price paid also provides a new fillip for the Chinese porcelain market. Early Ming blue and white porcelain was among the most sought after by collectors and prices have been rising steadily since the late 1960s. The price paid for the dish was a record for a similar piece in the sale.

The other important piece in the sale was a Ku Yeh Hsuan pear-shaped vase decorated with a landscape scene in underglaze blue and white, which was sold for £2,000.

There were two reasons for so wide an estimate. There has been controversy over the Ch'ien Lung mark on that type of vase, casting doubt as to whether they were really made in that reign. Again, the spiral of prices and collapse in the market has been a factor.

In the meantime, the prices in the £50,000 to £60,000 range were occasionally (and unpredictably) paid for exceptionally fine pieces. The highest price was £16,800 and the purchaser was Bluet, the London dealer.

The rest of the sale appeared to demonstrate that the market is getting back on an even keel with almost all the £10,000 to £20,000 range. The most notable example was a pair of Tang pottery figures of Lokapala, 42 inches high, at £18,100 (estimate £8,000 to £10,000) and a fine, green-glazed model of a fortified farmhouse tower, dating from the Han dynasty, at £5,040 (estimate £2,000 to £2,500).

A sale of Russian works of art at Park-Bernet in New York at the weekend saw a set of 12 demi-tasse cups, saucers and spoons, made of gold and enamel fetch \$27,000 (estimate \$20,000 to \$30,000) or £11,488. The price was paid for a silver-gilt and enamel dinner service of 1891 (estimate \$18,000 to \$22,000).

Other high prices in the sale included a pair of Tang pottery figures of Lokapala, 42 inches high, at £18,100 (estimate £8,000 to £10,000) and a fine, green-glazed model of a fortified farmhouse tower, dating from the Han dynasty, at £5,040 (estimate £2,000 to £2,500).

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Fears of further split over CEI proposals

By Derek Harris

A further split among members of the Council of Engineering Institutions may be caused by the plan for reorganizing the structure of the engineering profession, produced last month by the CEI after nine months of controversy.

It is understood that the Institute of Electronic and Radio Engineers, one of the 15 chartered bodies which make up the CEI, has already decided to turn down the plan.

Evidence is growing that substantial, although qualified opposition may come from four other smaller institutions. One of the biggest anxieties of some of these appears to be the likely cost of the new organization—one institution calculates possibly between £8 and £12 more per head annually compared with current subscriptions of around £20.

The problem is that under the present federal structure of CEI—which under the new plan would be replaced with a direct election and nominees from more than four dissenting votes would be enough to considerably delay the plan at least.

Electronic and Radio Engineers' stance appears to be that they want CEI to remain virtually as it is, although the need for a stronger public voice is felt.

They and some of the other smaller institutions are also believed to be against the original proposals for a shake-up of CEI put forward last August by the three senior and largest institutions, the Civil Engineers, Mechanical Engineers and Electrical Engineers.

It was criticisms of indecisiveness, springing from the federal structure, levelled against CEI by the senior bodies which precipitated the often tortuous controversy over the future organization of the profession.

The senior bodies have yet to make their decisions on the latest plan but they have appeared to be moving towards a broad acceptance of the proposals, albeit wanting some modifications.

Delays in settling the professional structure, however, could be expected to bring increased pressure from the Government, particularly the Department of Industry, which is responsible for the professions. If Britain opts to stay in the European Community there are important harmonization decisions coming up which the Government would find difficult to resolve with a profession that was increasingly divided.

Shipbuilders to put alternative plans on takeover compensation

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Britain's shipbuilders are to submit an alternative to the Government's compensation proposals for the state takeover of the industry, along with ship-repairing and marine engine building companies.

Leaders of the industry spent an hour yesterday with Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Industry—the first time that the two sides had met since last summer—to discuss the terms of the Government's Bill for the state acquisition of the aircraft and shipbuilding industries.

After the meeting Mr Cliff Baylis, director of the Shipbuilders and Repairers National Association (SRNA), said there had been "a useful exchange of views" and Mr Benn had emphasized that the Government would still be prepared to receive representations from the industry.

Despite Mr Benn's assertions to the contrary, shipbuilders consider the compensation terms far from fair or equitable and they intend to submit an alternative within the next two weeks.

Because of the congested parliamentary timetable, the Bill is not now expected to receive its Second Reading until after the Whitsun recess.

The SRNA delegation yesterday also sought clarification on a number of other issues, including the position of non-marine activities of a number

of firms on the takeover list, and the organizational structure of the proposed new state corporation, British Shipbuilders.

No further meetings were arranged with Mr Benn after yesterday's discussion and the industry will continue to press its case at further discussions with officials at the Department of Industry and through local MPs.

Officials of the Japan Ship Exporters' Association, whose members are faced with negotiations for the cancellation of many existing orders or their conversion to other types of vessel, said yesterday that the Japanese shipbuilding industry had so far refunded advance payments on orders totalling about £7m.

Tin Council chief silent on executive suspensions

By Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor

Mr H. W. Allen, executive chairman of the International Tin Council, yesterday resolutely fended off questions about why he had suspended from duty on Friday Mr R. T. Adnan, the council's chief stock manager, and his deputy, Mr J. M. Bueno.

After emphasizing that the decision was his own, and not that of the council, Mr Allen said that Mr Adnan and Mr Bueno had the right to make representations to the council and he therefore could not give reasons.

The suspensions had taken place at an extremely difficult time. "I doubt if it could have happened at a worse time," Mr Allen said. It was because it was necessary to defend a poor price in the market.

Mr Allen had to ensure the operation of the buffer stock without hiatus, and he had therefore assumed the duties of buffer stock manager himself and, in the emergency, had searched for someone to help.

That was why Mr Philip J. Jevons, managing director of Rudolf Wolff & Co, had been appointed special adviser with the assistance of two other members of Rudolf Wolff.

"When the Tin Council comes to reflect it will realize that a possible state of chaos was avoided," Mr Allen said.

Answering a question, Mr Allen said that there was no abnormal financial situation to unravel, nor had there been on Friday. The matter was one of employment of the officials by the Tin Council.

A meeting had been held of delegations at which Mr Allen's action in suspending the officials had been reported and discussed.

It was hoped to resume normal operations as soon as possible and the Tin Council now needed to convene, although no date had been set.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Yet another undesirable intervention by Mr Benn

From Mr Tom King, Conservative MP for Bridgwater

Sir, Maurice Corina's article in your issue of May 8 has drawn attention to yet another of Mr Wedgwood Benn's undesirable interventions in the affairs of a state corporation, in the shape of his directive to the Post Office on how it proposes to extend its investment in the private sector of equipment since 1970, by no less than 540 per cent in but one indication of the problems on the telephone side as well.

Surely anybody with even slight management experience would recognize that to seek to impose yet further responsibilities on a board so clearly stretched to the utmost by the problems of their present responsibilities would be an act of almost criminal stupidity.

Mr Wedgwood Benn's clear duty in the present crisis facing the Post Office is to withdraw this directive immediately, yet Maurice Corina indicates that there may be a whole day's delay in their present situation. Their answer should be a simple and clear "No."

Yours faithfully,
TOM KING,
Conservative Front Bench spokesman for Industry,
House of Commons.

Thoughtless bureaucracy causes difficulty in the building industry

From Mr Eric Ambrose

Sir, What a terrible situation the Department of the Environment has got us into by a thoughtless piece of compulsive bureaucracy!

At a time when our first priority must be the increased use of thermal insulation, the department has discovered a "flaw" in the new building regulations.

The historic safe action of filling a cavity wall with such insulators as foam in a restricted weather zone, or rockwool and glass fibre in any zone, technically "bridges" the cavity and so a waiver is required before work can be commenced.

In advising local authorities of this determination the DE has been careful to point out that the choice of the right insulant in the right zone would cause no problems, but, alas, the insistence on the paper exercise has wrought incalculable harm, and uninformed press comment—not in *The Times*—has added to the trouble. In many cases, the public is too frightened to proceed.

Anyone wanting to carry out a simple exercise in energy saving must apply to the already overloaded local authority for formal permission. Weeks can pass before the application is considered.

Some authorities (few in number) have made up their minds that certain firms with an Agreement should be allowed to proceed without the Agency's permission. The remainder, particularly the smaller bodies are nonplussed and work generally is at a standstill.

By next winter when the "real" fuel bills hit us and hypothermia is worse than ever, before the Government will have no alternative but to clear up the situation overnight. But why wait until experts' operatives are rendered unemployed?

Can we never get our priorities right?
Yours faithfully,
ERIC AMBROSE,
Royal Institute of British Architects,
March.

The Ridgeway,
Mill Hill,
London, NW7,
May 8.

Does UK motor trade export cars?

From Mr A. R. C. Westlake

Sir, My maternal grandfather, who came to London from the provinces and founded a well-known firm of chartered accountants, used to say that "little fish are sweet."

The Greek island of Samos, about the size of the Isle of Man, might be thought to be a small market, but there are a surprising number of motor vehicles. I have seen these increase noticeably in the last four years.

They include heavy lorries for the local bus industry, and a host of Mini-vans, some little more than boxes mounted on motor cycles or tricycles. There are motor buses, a large number of taxis and, of course, motor cycles.

The main suppliers of all these are Germany and Japan. I recently paid my third visit to the island, visiting the three main towns and some villages in the interior. I saw one British car and one British van, plus a Ford of unknown provenance.

It seems strange to me that rich nations like Germany and Japan think it worth while to export a small market like Samos. Perhaps this is one reason why they are rich.

I am beginning to wonder where British motor vehicle manufacturers do sell their cars. Apparently not in small markets, nor are they able to supply vehicles to the home market.

For on my return to Farnham I filed the local bus industry explaining gaps in its scheduled services because of a lack of vehicles.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. C. WESTLAKE,
Charterbury,
Fullers Road,
Rowledge,
Farnham,
Surrey,
May 8.

Customs in breach of Finance Bill?

From Mr H. Mainfrance

Sir, I have been hoping that some person would reply through your columns to the letter which you published in your edition of May 2 from Mr A. J. Phelps, of HM Customs and Excise, concerning the complexities of the new higher rate VAT. Perhaps you will permit me to take up the matter on behalf of the taxpayer.

Mr Phelps says: "In our opinion, a tin of paint or two metres of flex are not identifiable as 'parts' of domestic appliances, television sets, boats or other goods chargeable at the higher rate of VAT." However, the law does not talk about "parts" which are identifiable.

The schedule to the Finance (No 2) Bill 1975 in groups 2 and 3 talks about "goods of a kind suitable for use as parts of boats, television sets, etc." I should have thought that it was beyond question that paint and "two metres of flex" are goods of a kind suitable for use as parts of boats and/or television sets.

Mr Phelps says that the Customs Notice 742 makes it clear that nothing in the notice overrides the legal requirements, but the advice given therein seems to me to be directly contrary to the provisions of the Finance Bill. "Are we to understand that the Customs are making an extra-statutory ruling that certain goods, which are of general use but which nevertheless are suitable for use as parts of those items in Schedule 7 of the Finance Bill, will only be charged at the higher rate if they are supplied for specified services?"

Yours faithfully,
HUGH MAINFRANCE,
Crusader House,
14 Pall Mall,
London, SW1.

Engineers
From Mr M. L. Boyd

Sir, I would like to compliment Derek Harris on his very interesting article (April 21) on the proposed formation of the Chartered Engineering Institute.

As implied in the article, the proposals suggest that the new institution will either itself provide, or arrange for another body to provide, the normal range of personal services that one would expect from a modern professional association.

Although these are seen to exclude the negotiation of terms and conditions of employment, most would now accept that as a nonsense. It would be unrealistic to expect engineers not to require the same protection and support as all other professional employees.

The question now is whether the quarter million chartered engineers involved will treat this issue with the same indifference that they have shown in the past, and thus provide themselves with the AUEW (CLASS) and ASTMS with the chance of "landing" this extremely influential group of workers.

I am sure that these organizations are very much aware of the considerable influence of professional engineers in industry, and the effectiveness of that influence when sanctions are being considered.

The only body so far alerted to the potential dangers inherent in the present situation are UKAPE and ASEE.

It is to be hoped that the engineers and scientists will still sitting on the fence will realize that they must now commit themselves. If they do not they must accept the risk of absorption into a vast multi-representational body with its attendant loss of identity.

M. L. BOYD,
1 Hildote Road,
Oadby,
Leicester.

Misleading disclosure
From Mr R. J. Cummings

Sir, The reference in *Business Diary* on Tuesday, April 29 to "Research disclosure" was misleading in that it wrongly implied that a disclosure in *Mr. Massey's Journal* could be used as a basis of patent rights.

Disclosure in print in the United Kingdom does not constitute a patent right in most other countries. It is only in the United States that a disclosure in print after that disclosure (or on an application having a "priority date" later than that publication) is required.

Certain countries still require publication in their own territory to give rise to the same effect.

Disclosure therefore ensures a right, both for the person who discloses and for everyone else (the right to use the subject-matter disclosed), against subsequent applications for patents. However, the disclosure cannot establish a monopoly right, as the right to take action to prevent others from using the subject-matter.

Your story implied that the "cover" in some countries could be secured by disclosure. Since by "cover" is understood a monopoly right, your story was misleading.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT J. CUMMINGS,
Chartered Patent Agent,
Granta Patents Manager,
Victoria Works,
Gateshead,
Tyne and Wear.

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Dept 1, 132, Cavendish Court, 11-12, Wigmore Street,
London W1H 9LB. Telephone 01-626 1188 Telex 24252

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Shippers lobby Mr Foot

By Michael Bailey

Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, was yesterday accused of proposing to extend the dock labour scheme to placate the demands of registered dockers without regard for the wider national interest.

According to the British Shippers' Council, representing importers and exporters, extension of the scheme would result in more industrial strife, militant pressures, and restrictive practices.

In a second memorandum to Mr Foot, the council expresses "the keenest regret" that his recent consultation document totally ignored its earlier recommendations, to put the movement of trade first, and re-examine rather than extend the dock labour scheme.

Dockers at present outside the scheme generally constitute a more contented, progressive, and efficient labour force than those within the council claims. They possess, in practice, good job security, and conditions and pension rights at least as good.

GM to introduce smallest car

From Frank Vogl
Washington, May 12

General Motors Corporation is planning production of the smallest car ever made in the United States and the only world series car made by an American manufacturer recently.

The *New York Times* today reported that the car, being called the "Car", is a development of a series of small cars already on sale abroad, derived primarily from the German Opel Kadette, versions of which are the Chevette in the United Kingdom and Brazil and the Gemini in Japan and Australia.

The *New York Times*, quoting sources within GM, said the new car which will go on the market in autumn will have a 1.4-litre, four-cylinder engine—the smallest engine of any mass-produced car in the United States today.

The pool of unsold completed, or almost completed, homes, is still unusually large but is slowly being run down, the Department of the Environment said yesterday. At the end of February there were 37,000, compared with 56,000 at the end of October and 47,000 at the end of March, 1974.

At the same time, said the department, builders owned land with planning permission for about 340,000 homes, similar to four months earlier.

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Sedgwick Forbes on the move

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Foster Brothers pretax slips but stronger performance on way

Pre-tax profits slipped slightly at Foster Brothers Clothing for the year to February 28 from £3.32m to £3.27m despite a reasonable increase in turnover, which was up £6.5m to £34.4m.

A final dividend of 2.13p gross has been declared, against 2p for the corresponding period in 1973, making a total of 3.26p against 2.89p.

The company reported yesterday that the new year has started well with March and April notching up considerably greater increases than in the same period last year. With a confident outlook for the year, the company says: "Provided there is no further tinkering in retailers' affairs and presupposing there is some reasonable stability in retail conditions as a whole, then the group looks forward to a progressive year's trading and a further worthwhile improvement in the resultant profit."

After not inconsiderable problems with Stone Dri, Foster now reports that that sector is moving satisfactorily ahead with stocks down more than 50 per cent on a year ago.

Despite the overall downturn in profits for the full year, the group recovered some of the loss of momentum in the first half when pretax profits were £1.13m on a turnover of £15.6m. The company reports that the permitted profit margin was not sufficient to withstand the "up-surge in overheads".

The preliminary figures show that a surplus of £169,516 was made last year on the sale of properties. Meanwhile the company reports that the opening of additional branches has gone much in line with the planned programme.

While the pre-tax for last year was slightly down on the previous year it still ranks as the second highest in the company's history, having climbed from £830,317 in 1965.

Reyrolle sights bumper year with £350m orders

If it achieves production targets without excessive cost increases, Reyrolle Parsons expects its profits to continue to rise in 1975 above the record level of £4.5m for 1974.

Mr J. Woodman, chairman of this electrical equipment major, adds in his annual statement that total orders for the group at the beginning of the year exceeded £350m and more factories are well loaded throughout 1975 and into 1976.

There is a healthy demand from many overseas markets for group products.

High orders level at Simon Engineering

The order book of Simon Engineering at the start of 1975 was considerably larger than at any time in the group's history and orders have continued at a good rate since although there were some signs of a slowing down of enquiries in the specialised machinery companies.

Portals go ahead but shares unmoved

By Andrew Wilson

Last year Portals Holdings hoisted pretax profits from £3.89m to £4.23m while turnover rose from £37.1m to £45.1m. The big push came from paper-making, including security printing and banknote paper. Here, the improvement was from £1.36m to £1.87m thanks to firm contracts and supplies that kept up with production.

The water treatment and engineering activities raised profits from £2.02m to £2.29m. They benefited from long term contracts offsetting the fall in demand at the domestic end for water softeners, particularly in Western Europe. This has in the profits of the property division fell from £781,000 to £402,000 reflecting the sale of the property development company in 1973.

Net assets are stated as having risen from 115p to 119p a share while enabling the dividend total to increase from 6.9p to 7.7p gross earnings amount to 15p a share (13.5p). The shares rested at 125p.

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Hoveringham Gp cuts payment after profits dip

With demand for industrial buildings, houses and roads showing a considerable reduction throughout the country, it was clear that Hoveringham Group could not match last year's record profit of £14.7m. Even so the £567,000 achieved for 1974 is better than seemed likely at half time. However, the dividend is cut from 2.36p to 0.49p.

Turnover has gone up from £17.8m to £20.1m, but the trading surplus slipped from £2.8m to £2.17m. The interest charge rose from £387,000 to £607,000, while land depletion accounts for £213,000 against £232,000. Earnings a share are down from 3.11p to 1p. Because of the change in legislation, the board will not be offering a share alternative to the dividend.

At half time, the board said that because of the weather and the way holidays fell, the second half might produce only a profit. In the event, £245,000 was brought in, compared with £556,000 last year. The interim result was itself affected by the general fall in trade, the three-day week and also continuous wet weather.

JOHN WILLIAMS OF CARDIFF
In half year to March 31 pretax profit £325,000 (£246,000) on turnover up from £6.7m to £8.63m. Interim dividend 1.05p (0.65p).

Stock markets
Buyers aim for big exporters

Stock market trading was dominated yesterday by new fears for the economic outlook which gathered pace as the pound continued its slide on the foreign exchange markets.

The Prime Minister's television and radio performances apparently did little to bolster the City's morale. Market sources were predicting yesterday that the Government will soon be forced to introduce an emergency package of import controls and other measures.

Hunting Associated caught some eyes with a further useful rise in profits and an optimistic statement. But the shares only rose 2p to 47p. The new dividend is covered nearly nine times but the shares still yield 6 1/2 per cent. The p/e is 21.

designed to defend the pound. In the equity market, there were sharp rises in the shares of companies with high overseas earnings content—but there was a certain amount of selling as well.

Gilts fell back in the morning on panicky selling prompted by the sharp fall in the pound. But the market rallied a little around lunchtime, particularly at the longer end.

"Shorts" were up to 4 point lower on the day. Dealers said that the rally was separated by the close and that after-hours trading saw prices ease. Rumours of poor trade figures were largely to blame.

At one point "longs" were also 4 point off. But they closed with more modest falls of 1 point. The coupon rate on a "yearling" issue is expected to be between 12 1/2 and 13 per cent. Share prices seemed uncertain at first but investors quickly decided that the fresh fall in the pound strengthened the case for buying shares in major exporters. With the jobs still short of stock, prices began to rise sharply as the institutions began buying. Dealers reported that the institutions were also selling.

Business appointments

Two named for Barclays Bank UK Management

Mr Peter Leile and Mr Douglas Horner have been appointed directors of Barclays Bank UK Management from June 1. Mr Leslie continues as a general manager of Barclays Bank UK Management and Mr Horner becomes also a general manager on that date.

Mr T. B. Shaw has joined the board of BSA Limited. Mr E. W. Francis, vice-chairman of Tarmac, has been promoted to the new post of group chief executive.

Mr John R. Chapman has been appointed financial controller for Cory Distribution. Mr D. L. Donne has resigned as chairman and director of Bury and Masco (Holdings) and Mr B. L. Allen has been appointed to the board and elected chairman. Mr G. I. De Glanville has been

"into strength" at mid-morning. This view was borne out by a sharp setback later in the day. The FT index touched 344.2 before falling back to 339.8, a net 6.2 up. Recorded bargains of 7,525 confirmed that turnover was moderate rather than heavy.

Shares in almost all Britain's major exporting groups featured in yesterday's rise. Unilever, with the quarterly trading figures now a matter of history, touched 386p before reacting to 380p, a net 8p higher. Bats, 64p up at 322p, had seen 327p, 141, 5p up at 259p, had touched 261p, before 5p up at 369p, had touched 388p.

Beecham, due to report progress next week, ended 8p up at 287p after 294p, and Courtalds were 4p up at 116p after 118p.

Other overseas earners to find buyers were BSE, 5 1/2p higher at 128p, Metal Box 2p better at 290p after 294p, and Reed International 12p higher at 292p after 288p.

A soaring investment dollar premium pushed Phillips Lamp to 89p. On the oil pitch, Shell, 7p up at 311p after 314p ahead of the quarterly trading

report due on Thursday. BP jumped 20p to 453p, having topped off with the rest of the market at the close.

On the company news front, Furness Withy steadied at 188p (after 191p) on the assurance of profits well up to expectations. What the market expects now is a bid move from the unidentified buyer of Furness Withy. Commercial Union (176p) hardened also after trading news. Banks were firmer. An active feature was Hambros Bank, down to 130p, and then up to 140p in response to a press report that a statement will be made shortly about involvement in shipping finance, probably with the 1974 figures due next month.

Shares in Edward Bates & Sons Holdings jumped 21p to 77p on fresh rumours that an unknown source had taken a stake.

Equity turnover on May 9 was £75m (20,837 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, Shell, Bess, Dierkens, Unilever, Coss, Goldfields, RIT, EMI, English China Clay and Reed International.

Latest dividends

Company	Ord	Year	Prev
Admiral (20p)	0.38	27/6	1.06
Bishopsgate Tst (25p)	4.0	20/6	6.09
Brixton Estate (25p)	0.93	0.83	2.58
Burrell & Co (5p)	0.5	20/1	0.89
Common Bess (20p)	3.08	2.98	6.82
Foster Bros Cloth (25p)	2.13	2.0	3.26
Furness, Withy (11)	5.57	5.37	6.27
Hoveringham Gp (25p)	0.49	1.85	0.49
Hunting Assoc Int (25p)	1.33	1.57	3.10
James Group (10p)	3.0	2.1	4.0
Samuel Osborn (10p)	1.54	1.25	10/7
Shell (10p)	1.04	1/7	2.12
P. Fanto (10p)	5.4	4.81	7.74
Verde Ridge (25p)	3.69	3.23	5.89
Randall Gp (25p)	2.15	1.82	3/7
Shellharbour Price (25p)	2.15	1.82	3/7
Thomson (10p)	0.77	0.67	1.53
Unilever (10p)	2c	2.5c	8/7
Welgatcht Exp Int	0.77	0.74	1.14
Ben Williams (10p)	0.53	0.51	1.1
J. Williams Canada (25p)	1.02	0.91	1.02
Arden Wood (5p)	2.46	2.12	26/6
Young Cos Dev (11)	2.46	2.12	26/6

† Forecast. ‡ Cents a share. † Adjusted for scrip.

Midland-Yorkshire

Midland-Yorkshire Holdings is still trying to extract a higher bid from Croda International, even though Croda announced last Friday that it had 48.06 per cent of the M.Y. equity. Midland point out that apart from the National Coal Board, only 4.3 per cent of the voting capital has accepted the Croda offer, and argues ingeniously that every M.Y. share is worth 741p to Croda.

Meanwhile, the bidder has inched a bit nearer the 50 per cent acceptance limit where it will go unconditional but refuses to say how much. Midland's shares rested at 390p yesterday.

Venesta £2.4m ca
Keizer to Meyer

Venesta International sold a 30 per cent subsidiary Keizer & Montague L. Meyer cash in yet another late in 1973 Venesta 106p a share for 1 cent of the K.V. equity not already owned, valued £2.13m.

Shares of Venesta to 71p yesterday fall announcement, state company at £1.06m. The loss of £957,000, post-tax profit of £81 the previous year. In last year Venesta noted of £2.46m from the subsidiaries.

The last accounts of Williams Hudson, the for Mr David Rowley, valued 46.9 per cent in Venesta. Mr Rowley subsequently succeeded Winterbottom as chairman.

Record year
Hunting
Associated

Hunting Associated, the technical, photographic services, made record profits before they rose to £1.83m with turnover of £31.36m to £40.9m. Mr Clive Hunting, chairman, said the results of a subsidiary of Industries Africa have included "because of the continuing uncertainty, their could be misleading, as for 1973 have adjusted on a co basis. A final dividend (133p) is proposed (310p (2.76p). Payable 1975.

Two inspectors
for Bryanston

Mr Peter Shore, Secretary, has appointed 1. Hawser, QC, and 2. Darby, an accountant, inspectors to investigate affairs of Bryanston under Section 164 of the Companies Act 1948. This follows a request from shareholders and inquiry the Department.

INTERIM STATEMENT

Commercial Union
Assurance Company Limited

The Board announces estimated and unaudited for the 3 months to 31st March 1975 of £6.3m (£4.5m providing for taxation. It is emphasised that the results for the first 3 months cannot be taken as a guide for the year as a whole.

	3 months to 31st March (Estimate)	3 months to 31st March (Estimate)
NET WRITTEN PREMIUMS	£m	£m
Fire, Accident & Marine	228.3	191.7
UNDERWRITING		
Fire, Accident & Marine	(-6.5)	(-4.5)
Investment Income	22.6	16.1
Life Profits	1.3	8
Share of Associated Company's Earnings	(-0.9)	3
TRADING PROFIT	16.5	12.7
Loan Interest & Minorities	4.7	4.7
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	11.8	8.0
Taxation	5.5	3.5
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION	6.3	4.5
EARNINGS PER SHARE	2.05p	2.03p
Net Assets attributable to Shareholders	£268m	£224m

The substantial increase in investment income, due to increased capital, has well exceeded the underwriting loss for the first quarter.

The results in the U.K. show a satisfactory profit. In the United States results are worse than ago, but the statutory operating ratio of 105.8% (10 shows an improvement in experience over the last 4 of 1974. Motor experience has deteriorated and the need of substantial rate increases. In Canada results some improvement. There is little change in the writing experience in Australia, which remains unprofitable and the underwriting results in Western Europe unchanged.

The share of associated company's earnings (Loss included above is an appropriate proportion of the public loss, for six months ended 31st March 1975, of Merc Credit Company Limited.

As usual, the results of the Company's operations have been converted at rates of exchange at the close of the periods reported above.

Insure with
Commercial Union
Assurance

Empire Stores
(Bradford) Limited

Salient points from the circulated statement by the Chairman, Mr. C. T. Wells, on the financial year ended 31st January, 1975.

Start of the year adversely affected by 3-day week, thereafter continued improvement. Group sales finally achieved total of £52,147,000, an increase of 21%.

The Company has been faced with considerable increased costs and has suffered from Government restrictions on margins, nevertheless net profit before tax up 4% to £3,660,000.

Final dividend of 1.49p, together with Interim of 1.31p, makes 2.80p per share total, the maximum permitted.

The mechanised warehouse at Kettlethorpe, together with benefits derived from the computer, made a considerable contribution to the efficiency of the Company. Service to agents and customers now equal to the best.

Great attention has been paid to cash flow and finance. Institution of tighter controls on stock and debtors, together with arrangements made with the Company's bankers, should enable the Company to have the minimum of financing problems within the next two years.

The economic problems of the near future and the problems of inflation on costs make any forecast of profitability very difficult. The efficiency of the Company is, however, higher now than it has been for many years and we are well situated to make the best of available opportunities.

Empire Stores (Bradford) Limited 18 Canal Road Bradford

We are pleased to announce that

Robert M. Kock

and

Ian H. Sugden

have been appointed vice presidents.

Goldman Sachs International Corp.
40 Basinghall Street
London EC2V 5DE

Goldman Sachs

INTERIM STATEMENT



INTERIM RESULTS

	25 weeks to	25 weeks to
	21.3.75*	22.3.74
Sales	£'000	£'000
Trading profits for the period	14,649	12,484
Steels	427	185
Tools	192	122
Overseas	882	811
	1,501	1,118
Share of profit of associated companies	79	34

Group profit before interest, after charging depreciation for the period of £273,000 (1974 £278,000) .. 1,580 1,152
Interim Dividend .. 1p per share (8375p per net 94 share net) 79

* Unaudited.

"Sales and profits in the main operating groups show an increase over the same period last year. . . . In my statement in last year's annual report, I drew attention to the importance to this company of Britain remaining a member of the EEC. From the viewpoint of long-term job security, we are urging our employees to vote in the referendum for Britain to remain in the EEC. . . ."

B. E. Cotton, Executive Chairman.

Samuel Osborn & Co. Ltd., P.O. Box No. 1, Sheffield S30 3TR
An international group manufacturing and selling high quality steels, engineers' cutting tools, mining and engineering equipment.

Commodities

By a Special Correspondent

Hopes of copper price rally fade
as second quarter slips by

The fairly steady tone of London Metal Exchange copper prices was disturbed last week. From a January low of £497 a tonne for cash wire bars, a peak of £591 was reached on April 1, in a constant upward trend.

Last week, however, saw the wire bar price at £537.50 for cash, a new low since January which reflected greater uncertainty among most dealers.

The general consensus as to the timing of a copper recovery has tended to favour the second half of this year, but as the second quarter slips by there are no signs of such a recovery and a few pointers that things will get worse before they get better.

Few dealers, for example, are now prepared to rule out the possibility of a further drop below £500 before the end of the summer, when trading is traditionally dull.

A copper price of £500 in August may be worth around £430 in January money values, assuming an inflation rate of around 20 per cent a year and a continuing exchange rate slide.

But while lower copper prices remain only a likely prospect for the next few months, lead and zinc producers are already reported to be organizing price cuts. Three months zinc prices, for example, fell to £306 a tonne last week.

on Friday, mainly as a result of the weakening lead markets in the United States.

Asarco, one of the largest American primary lead producers, and traditionally the last to move its bid prices, announced a cut of 1.75 cents a lb to 22.75 cents a lb early this month, which took other producers and most dealers by surprise.

Market activity in tin was overshadowed by the suspension on Friday of the International Tin Council's buffer stock manager and his deputy. LME dealers reacted nervously, firming up prices by £11-£13 a tonne for both standard and high grade tin.

In the confusion created by the suspension, attention was diverted away from the ITC's meetings in Washington last week. These were believed to have included visits to the IMF and the General Services Administration for discussions on securing additional finance for a larger buffer stock, and limiting GSA releases in order to make the Tin Council's own actions more effective.

While those negotiations were progressing, dealers were generally reluctant to expect developments which might lead to higher tin prices, while it is still too early for the ITC's export restrictions to have affected the market.

In all LME metals, however, the dominant theme of low consumer demand is still troubling the market. Meanwhile, stocks are extremely high and it will take some months to clear them once demand picks up, but until they have been substantially reduced the prospects for higher prices are very poor.

EEC farming policy

Nothing so unacademic as a recommendation to one way or the other in the forthcoming referendum mars the first in a series of occasional papers from the Wye College (London University) Centre for European Agricultural Studies.

However, its timely publication makes an interesting contribution to the debate as to whether the Common Agricultural Policy is geared primarily to help the farmer at the expense of the consumer.

food commodities, from meat and canned goods to sugar. There is little doubt where he stands on this question.

His theme is that the CAP was conceived to shelter farmers and assure them of a good living. Now that its nature has changed—"almost brutally mutated"—it is his phrase.

He sees evidence that the policy seeks now to maintain a more even balance between the interests of producers and consumers. Just as important is the growing willingness of the Community to make concessions on imports of agricultural products from the developing countries.

One question immediately comes to mind: if the policy has moved in one direction, can it not swing back just as readily? Mr Harris thinks not. He believes the stimulus for change was the shortage of several commodities and the consequent explosion in prices in the 1972-74 boom.

This resulted in a build-up of political pressure within the EEC which led, for instance, to the Commission being prepared to apply export levies to prevent products in short supply leaving the Community (thus keeping prices under control) and in the greater willingness to consider consumer subsidies (as on sugar).

"The World Commodity Scene and the Common Agricultural Policy," by Simon Harris, price £1.25. Published by the Centre for European Agricultural Studies, Wye College (University of London), Ashford, Kent.

Wall Street

New York, May 12.—On the New York Stock Exchange today, shares were mostly higher although scattered profit-taking exerted downward pressure on some blue chips.

At noon, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was 2.04 down at 348.09.

Occidental Petroleum, the most active stock, rose 2 1/2 to \$16 1/2. It said a new natural gas field in the northern Sacramento Valley of California tested at a combined rate of 9.1m cubic feet of gas daily.

Copper Range, which dropped 5 1/2 on Friday, gained 5 1/2 today to \$29 1/2. The company said it could not explain the reason for the stock's activity.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Orders thin out at Samuel Osborn

Sales and taxable profits of Samuel Osborn, the Sheffield-based international group which makes and sells high quality tools, engineers' cutting tools, made good gains in the first half to March 31. But in the second half, while the overseas companies had strong orders, those at home thinned out considerably. Half-year profits rose from £842,000 to £1,250,000, but sales fell from £14.5m to £14.1m. The attributable profits worked out at 10.0m against £225,000 and a interim dividend is being paid of 1.25p to 1.50p.

Mr B. E. Cotton, the chairman, says that with the exception of Australia, the group's companies continue to operate profitably. The thinner order books are expected to restrict operating results of the steel company in particular and the tool company to a lesser extent. In the second half, five steel order intake aspects has been severely affected by the reduced demand from a motor industry.

Dividend hiatus at Berakt

As the Portuguese authorities have not yet sanctioned the payment of just over £1m to United Kingdom shareholders of the oil and oilfield services company, the declaration of a dividend. The last payment was in 1970. When funds are received, a dividend will be declared which is likely to be the largest in the company's history. Thanks to high demand for oil almost completely eliminated the stockpile, and oil prices, operating oil swings from a loss of £1,000 to a surplus of £3,000 in the year. The company's earnings amounted to £3,07m (loss 15,000) while net profits, re-invested, jumped from £1,000 to £1,650m in 1973 there as no tax clawback while earnings leapt to 14.7p a share. Shares closed 2p-firm at 1p ahead of the announcement.

as Beattie higher

Another record year at James Beattie, the department store group and "close" company, as exceeded board expectations at £1.78m, against £1.59m in 1973. Margins had already begun to improve in 1974, but at the end result, still exceeds the rule so further margin cuts must be made this year. The dividend is 5.28p, against 5.0p (11.83p). Turnover for the year, against £17.6m for the year.

and going at Hoechst

A 24 per cent drop in net profit of Hoechst, parent of the German chemical group, the March quarter was con-

Richards & Wallington to raise £1m

Sub-underwriting has been completed for a rights issue by Richards & Wallington Industries, who hold a predominant position in the crane hire industry to raise £1.03m. The issue on a 1-for-5 basis to ordinary shareholders at 47p a share, 0.925 new ordinary shares. A RWI share price ended changed at 61p. As known, the group achieved a 24 per cent rise in taxable

Government bond prices (midday indicators)

TRAIGHTS			1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	2036-37	2037-38	2038-39	2039-40	2040-41	2041-42	2042-43	2043-44	2044-45	2045-46	2046-47	2047-48	2048-49	2049-50	2050-51	2051-52	2052-53	2053-54	2054-55	2055-56	2056-57	2057-58	2058-59	2059-60	2060-61	2061-62	2062-63	2063-64	2064-65	2065-66	2066-67	2067-68	2068-69	2069-70	2070-71	2071-72	2072-73	2073-74	2074-75	2075-76	2076-77	2077-78	2078-79	2079-80	2080-81	2081-82	2082-83	2083-84	2084-85	2085-86	2086-87	2087-88	2088-89	2089-90	2090-91	2091-92	2092-93	2093-94	2094-95	2095-96	2096-97	2097-98	2098-99	2099-00	2100-01	2101-02	2102-03	2103-04	2104-05	2105-06	2106-07	2107-08	2108-09	2109-10	2110-11	2111-12	2112-13	2113-14	2114-15	2115-16	2116-17	2117-18	2118-19	2119-20	2120-21	2121-22	2122-23	2123-24	2124-25	2125-26	2126-27	2127-28	2128-29	2129-30	2130-31	2131-32	2132-33	2133-34	2134-35	2135-36	2136-37	2137-38	2138-39	2139-40	2140-41	2141-42	2142-43	2143-44	2144-45	2145-46	2146-47	2147-48	2148-49	2149-50	2150-51	2151-52	2152-53	2153-54	2154-55	2155-56	2156-57	2157-58	2158-59	2159-60	2160-61	2161-62	2162-63	2163-64	2164-65	2165-66	2166-67	2167-68	2168-69	2169-70	2170-71	2171-72	2172-73	2173-74	2174-75	2175-76	2176-77	2177-78	2178-79	2179-80	2180-81	2181-82	2182-83	2183-84	2184-85	2185-86	2186-87	2187-88	2188-89	2189-90	2190-91	2191-92	2192-93	2193-94	2194-95	2195-96	2196-97	2197-98	2198-99	2199-00	2200-01	2201-02	2202-03	2203-04	2204-05	2205-06	2206-07	2207-08	2208-09	2209-10	2210-11	2211-12	2212-13	2213-14	2214-15	2215-16	2216-17	2217-18	2218-19	2219-20	2220-21	2221-22	2222-23	2223-24	2224-25	2225-26	2226-27	2227-28	2228-29	2229-30	2230-31	2231-32	2232-33	2233-34	2234-35	2235-36	2236-37	2237-38	2238-39	2239-40	2240-41	2241-42	2242-43	2243-44	2244-45	2245-46	2246-47	2247-48	2248-49	2249-50	2250-51	2251-52	2252-53	2253-54	2254-55	2255-56	2256-57	2257-58	2258-59	2259-60	2260-61	2261-62	2262-63	2263-64	2264-65	2265-66	2266-67	2267-68	2268-69	2269-70	2270-71	2271-72	2272-73	2273-74	2274-75	2275-76	2276-77	2277-78	2278-79	2279-80	2280-81	2281-82	2282-83	2283-84	2284-85	2285-86	2286-87	2287-88	2288-89	2289-90	2290-91	2291-92	2292-93	2293-94	2294-95	2295-96	2296-97	2297-98	2298-99	2299-00	2300-01	2301-02	2302-03	2303-04	2304-05	2305-06	2306-07	2307-08	2308-09	2309-10	2310-11	2311-12	2312-13	2313-14	2314-15	2315-16	2316-17	2317-18	2318-19	2319-20	2320-21	2321-22	2322-23	2323-24	2324-25	2325-26	2326-27	2327-28	2328-29	2329-30	2330-31	2331-32	2332-33	2333-34	2334-35	2335-36	2336-37	2337-38	2338-39	2339-40	2340-41	2341-42	2342-43	2343-44	2344-45	2345-46	2346-47	2347-48	2348-49	2349-50	2350-51	2351-52	2352-53	2353-54	2354-55	2355-56	2356-57	2357-58	2358-59	2359-60	2360-61	2361-62	2362-63	2363-64	2364-65	2365-66	2366-67	2367-68	2368-69	2369-70	2370-71	2371-72	2372-73	2373-74	2374-75	2375-76	2376-77	2377-78	2378-79	2379-80	2380-81	2381-82	2382-83	2383-84	2384-85	2385-86	2386-87	2387-88	2388-89	2389-90	2390-91	2391-92	2392-93	2393-94	2394-95	2395-96	2396-97	2397-98	2398-99	2399-00	2400-01	2401-02	2402-03	2403-04	2404-05	2405-06	2406-07	2407-08	2408-09	2409-10	2410-11	2411-12	2412-13	2413-14	2414-15	2415-16	2416-17	2417-18	2418-19	2419-20	2420-21	2421-22	2422-23	2423-24	2424-25	2425-26	2426-27	2427-28	2428-29	2429-30	2430-31	2431-32	2432-33	2433-34	2434-35	2435-36	2436-37	2437-38	2438-39	2439-40	2440-41	2441-42	2442-43	2443-44	2444-45	2445-46	2446-47	2447-48	2448-49	2449-50	2450-51	2451-52	2452-53	2453-54	2454-55	2455-56	2456-57	2457-58	2458-59	2459-60	2460-61	2461-62	2462-63	2463-64	2464-65	2465-66	2466-67	2467-68	2468-69	2469-70	2470-71	2471-72	2472-73	2473-74	2474-75	2475-76	2476-77	2477-78	2478-79	2479-80	2480-81	2481-82	2482-83	2483-84	2484-85	2485-86	2486-87	2487-88	2488-89	2489-90	2490-91	2491-92	2492-93	2493-94	2494-95	2495-96	2496-97	2497-98	2498-99	2499-00	2500-01	2501-02	2502-03	2503-04	2504-05	2505-06	2506-07	2507-08	2508-09	2509-10	2510-11	2511-12	2512-13	2513-14	2514-15	2515-16	2516-17	2517-18	2518-19	2519-20	2520-21	2521-22	2522-23	2523-24	2524-25	2525-26	2526-27	2527-28	2528-29	2529-30	2530-31	2531-32	2532-33	2533-34	2534-35	2535-36	2536-37	2537-38	2538-39	2539-40	2540-41	2541-42	2542-43	2543-44	2544-45	2545-46	2546-47	2547-48	2548-49	2549-50	2550-51	2551-52	2552-53	2553-54	2554-55	2555-56	2556-57	2557-58	2558-59	2559-60	2560-61	2561-62	2562-63	2563-64	2564-65	2565-66	2566-67	2567-68	2568-69	2569-70	2570-71	2571-72	2572-73	2573-74	2574-75	2575-76	2576-77	2577-78	2578-79	2579-80	2580-81	2581-82	2582-83	2583-84	2584-85	2585-86	2586-87	2587-88	2588-89	2589-90	2590-91	2591-92	2592-93	2593-94	2594-95	2595-96	2596-97	2597-98	2598-99	2599-00	2600-01	2601-02	2602-03	2603-04	2604-05	2605-06	2606-07	2607-08	2608-09	2609-10	2610-11	2611-12	2612-13	2613-14	2614-15	2615-16	2616-17	2617-18	2618-19	2619-20	2620-21	2621-22	2622-23	2623-24	2624-25	2625-26	2626-27	2627-28	2628-29	2629-30	2630-31	2631-32	2632-33	2633-34	2634-35	2635-36	2636-37	2637-38	2638-39	2639-40	2640-41	2641-42	2642-43	2643-44	2644-45	2645-46	2646-47	2647-48	2648-49	2649-50	2650-51	2651-52	2652-53	2653-54	2654-55	2655-56	2656-57	2657-58	2658-59	2659-60	2660-61	2661-62	2662-63	2663-64	2664-65	2665-66	2666-67	2667-68	2668-69	2669-70	2670-71	2671-72	2672-73	2673-74	2674-75	2675-76	2676-77	2677-78	2678-79	2679-80	2680-81	2681-82	2682-83	2683-84	2684-85	2685-86	2686-87	2687-88	2688-89	2689-90	2690-91	2691-92	2692-93	2693-94	2694-95	2695-96	2696-97	2697-98	2698-99	2699-00	2700-01	2701-02	2702-03	2703-04	2704-05	2705-06	2706-07	2707-08	2708-09	2709-10	2710-11	2711-12	2712-13	2713-14	2714-15	2715-16	2716-17	2717-18	2718-19	2719-20	2720-21	2721-22	2722-23	2723-24	2724-25	2725-26	2726-27	2727-28	2728-29	2729-30	2730-31	2731-32	2732-33	2733-34	2734-35	2735-36	2736-37	2737-38	2738-39	2739-40	2740-41	2741-42	2742-43	2743-44	2744-45	2745-46	2746-47	2747-48	2748-49	2749-50	2750-51	2751-52	2752-53	2753-54	2754-55	2755-56	2756-57	2757-58	2758-59	2759-60	2760-61	2761-62	2762-63	2763-64	2764-65	2765-66	2766-67	2767-68	2768-69	2769-70	2770-71	2771-72	2772-73	2773-74	2774-75	2775-76	2776-77	2777-78	2778-79	2779-80	2780-81	2781-82	2782-83	2783-84	2784-85	2785-86	2786-87	2787-88	2788-89	2789-90	2790-91	2791-92	2792-93	2793-94	2794-95	2795-96	2796-97	2797-98	2798-99	2799-00	2800-01	2801-02	2802-03	2803-04	2804-05	2805-06	2806-07	2807-08	2808-09	2809-10	2810-11	2811-12	2812-13	2813-14	2814-15	2815-16	2816-17	2817-18	2818-19	2819-20	2820-21	2821-22	2822-23	2823-24	2824-25	2825-26	2826-27	2827-28	2828-29	2829-30	2830-31	2831-32	2832-33	2833-34	2834-35	2835-36	2836-37	2837-38	2838-39	2839-40	2840-41	2841-42	2842-43	2843-44	2844-45	2845-46	2846-47	2847-48	2848-49	2849-50	2850-51	2851-52	2852-53	2853-54	2854-55	2855-56	2856-57	2857-58	2858-59	2859-60	2860-61	2861-62	2862-63	2863-64	2864-65	2865-66	2866-67	2867-68	2868-69	2869-70	2870-71	2871-72	2872-73	2873-74	2874-75	2875-76	2876-77	2877-78	2878-79	2879-80	2880-81	2881-82	2882-83	2883-84	2884-85	2885-86	2886-87	2887-88	2888-89	2889-90	2890-91	2891-92	2892-93	2893-94	2894-95	2895-96	2896-97	2897-98	2898-99	2899-00	2900-01	2901-02	2902-03	2903-04	2904-05	2905-06	2906-07	2907-08	2908-09	2909-10	2910-11	2911-12	2912-13	2913-14	2914-15	2915-16	2916-17	2917-18	2918-19	2919-20	2920-21	2921-22	2922-23	2923-24	2924-25	2925-26	2926-27	2927-28	2928-29	2929-30	2930-31	2931-32	2932-33	2933-34	2934-35	2935-36	2936-37	2937-38	2938-39	2939-40	2940-41	2941-42	2942-43	2943-44	2944-45	2945-46	2946-47	2947-48	2948-49	2949-50	2950-51	2951-52	2952-53	2953-54	2954-55	2955-56	2956-57	2957-58	2958-59	2959-60	2960-61	2961-62	2962-63	2963-64	2964-65	2965-66	2966-67	2967-68	2968-69	2969-70	2970-71	2971-72	2972-73	2973-74	2974-75	2975-76	2976-77	2977-78	2978-79	2979-80	2980-81	2981-82	2982-83	2983-84	2984-85	2985-86	2986-87	2987-88	2988-89	2989-90	2990-91	2991-92	2992-93	2993-94	2994-95	2995-96	2996-97	2997-98	2998-99	2999-00	3000-01	3001-02	3002-03	3003-04	3004-05
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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 35 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 15 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 85 years of age or older is projected to increase from 2 million to 4 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 90 years of age or older is projected to increase from 500,000 to 1 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 95 years of age or older is projected to increase from 100,000 to 200,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 100 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10,000 to 20,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996).

Sotheby's

FOUNDED 1844



Today, 13th May, at 11 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. A German glass helmet, late 16th century

TUESDAY, 13th MAY, at 11 a.m.
at New Bond St.
ITALIAN PRINTED BOOKS WITH SECTIONS ON POLITICAL ECONOMY AND SCIENCE
Cat. (7 plates) 35p

TUESDAY, 13th MAY, at 11 a.m.
at New Bond St.
ORIENTAL CERAMICS AND WORKS OF ART Cat. 20p

TUESDAY, 13th MAY, at 11 a.m.
at New Bond St.
FINE LONGARMS, PISTOLS, CROSSBOWS AND SWORDS Cat. (21 plates) 65p
and at approximately 11.45 a.m.
MODERN SPORTING GUNS, ANTIQUE FIREARMS, ARMOUR AND EDGED WEAPONS Cat. (8 plates) 30p

TUESDAY, 13th MAY, at 11 a.m.
at Belgrave
ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN PRINTS, 1680-1860, AND DRAWINGS AND PRINTS BY HENRY BUNBURY
from the Collection of Sir William Bunbury, Bt., and other owners Cat. (75 illustrations) 85p

WEDNESDAY, 14th MAY, at 11 a.m.
at New Bond St.
FINE OLD MASTER PAINTINGS
Cat. (15 plates) 45p

Saturday, 17th May, 9 a.m. to 4.15 p.m., special viewing at Belgrave of Paintings, Silver, Wedgwood and Arts and Crafts Sales

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Sotheby & Co., 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA. Telephone: 01-493 8080
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Sotheby's Belgrave, 19 Motcomb Street, London SW1X 8LB. Telephone: 01-235 4311
John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: 031-226 5438

THURSDAY, 15th MAY, at 11 a.m.,
at New Bond St.
ENGLISH AND FOREIGN SILVER AND PLATE
including the properties of the Earl of Selborne, Count Bentinck, and other owners
Cat. (4 plates) 25p

THURSDAY, 15th MAY, at 1 p.m.,
at Chancery Lane
PRINTED BOOKS Cat. 20p

FRIDAY, 16th MAY, at 11 a.m.,
at New Bond St.
CONTINENTAL FURNITURE, WORKS OF ART, RUGS AND CARPETS
including the properties of Sir John Molesworth-St. Aubyn, Bt., C.B.E., the Lord Brownlow, and other owners
Cat. (12 plates) 35p

MONDAY, 19th MAY, and the following day, at 11 a.m.,
at New Bond St.
VALUABLE PRINTED BOOKS, AUTOGRAPH LETTERS AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS
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MONDAY, 19th MAY, at 2.30 p.m.,
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including the properties of the Rt. Hon. the Viscount Eccles, P.C., K.C.V.O., Lt.-General Sir George Collingwood, K.B.E., D.S.O., C.B., and other owners
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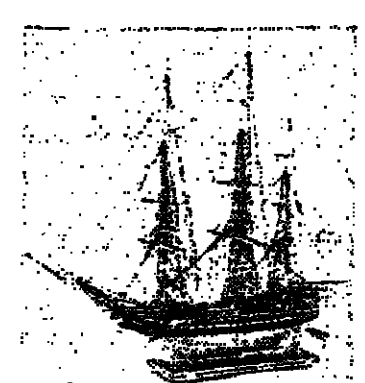
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Fine English Furniture, Objects of Art, Eastern Rugs and Carpets. The Properties of Major The Hon. J. Ashley-Cooper, Sir Ian MacDonald, of Sleat, Bt., The late Major A. F. Clarke-Jervell, D.L., J.P., The late Dewager Lady Loch and others. Catalogue (16 plates) 58p post paid.

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Fine Italian Maiolica and Continental Pottery. Catalogue (20 plates, including 4 in colour) 63p post paid.

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at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
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English Drawings and Watercolours, Decorative and Topographical Prints. The Properties of The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Radcliffe, G.B.E. and others. Catalogue (17 illustrations) 35p post paid.

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at 2 p.m.
Watercolours, Drawings and Prints.

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Photographs, Musical Boxes, Talking Machines and Records.

THURSDAY, MAY 15th
at 12 noon
'End of Bin' and Inexpensive Wines for Everyday Drinking (Wine tasting 10 a.m. to 12 noon.)

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Ceramics and Works of Art, Oriental Paintings and Prints.

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TUESDAY, MAY 20th
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Phillips

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Thur., May 15, 10 a.m. Furniture etc. at Marylebone.

Thur., May 15, 11 a.m. Lace and Costumes.

Fri., May 16, 11 a.m. Silver and Plated Ware.

Mon., May 19, 11 a.m. Antique & Decorative Furniture, Works of Art, Carpets.

Mon., May 19, 2 p.m. Selected 20th Century Pictures.

Tue., May 20, 11 a.m. Good English, Continental Furniture, Works of Art, Carpets, Scientific Instruments.

Tue., May 20, 2 p.m. Jewellery.

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Specialists in the Sale by Auction of Coins and Medals beg to announce the following forthcoming sales.

Wednesday, 14th May, 11 a.m.

ENGLISH, SCOTTISH & IRISH COINS

Including the Collection formed by C. F. Gilbey, also other properties of English & Foreign Coins in gold and silver and a Collection of 18th Century Tokens formed by the late Tom Hill (Illustrated Catalogue 15 plates—Price 25p)

Tuesday and Wednesday, 3rd and 4th June at 10 a.m. each day

A fine series of gold and silver

COINS OF THE WORLD

Including comprehensive groups of Coins of the Low Countries and the Kingdoms of Holland, the Netherlands and Belgium. Coins of the 17th Century and many other rare Coins. (Illustrated Catalogue Price £25)

(Plus Air Mail postage for Europe 50p—rest of world £2)

Monday, 5th June, at 10 a.m.

BANK NOTES

of the

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

and a few related items (Illustrated Catalogue Price £25)

(Plus Air Mail postage for Europe 50p—rest of world 75p)

Wednesday, 18th June, at 10 a.m.

ENGLISH, SCOTTISH & IRISH HAMMERED SILVER COINS

Including the R.V.P. British Collection of Coins of Barnstaple. (Illustrated Catalogue 14 plates—Price 50p)

Thursday, 20th June, at 10 a.m.

MODERN ENGLISH CROWNS

(Illustrated Catalogue 14 plates—Price 50p)

Friday, 21st June, at 10 a.m.

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An early 17th century bronze from the French Royal Collections, listed as No. 321 in the 1729 inventory, 7 1/2 inches

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Bonham's

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Tuesday, 13th May, at 11 a.m.

OLD ENGLISH AND MODERN SILVER AND JEWELLERY, including a George III coffee jug, a George III basket

A George III basket, a George III brooch, and a diamond ring. Cat. 20p

Wednesday, 14th May, at 11 a.m.

OLD AND MODERN ENGRAVINGS, ETCHINGS, LITHOGRAPHS, and other prints, including works by and after Alken, Daniel, Colman, David, Hunt, Roberto, Woollett. Cat. 25p

Thursday, 15th May, at 11 a.m.

ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL FURNITURE, including a James I oak side table, circa 1625; a George III

bureau bookcase; a French

Victorian walnut chairs; a set of 6

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£54,000

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LEGAL NOTICES

No 001601 of 1975

In the High Court of Justice

Chancery Division

Between the Plaintiff and the Defendant

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for the winding up of the Defendant has been presented to the High Court of Justice on the 12th day of May 1975.

The Defendant is a company registered in England under the Companies Act 1948.

And that the said Petition is supported by the evidence of the Plaintiff.

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The King Faisal Medical City



a Special Report
by Pearce Wright,
Science
Correspondent;
photographs by
Peter Carmichael

Like a character from science fiction, a patient stares through the transparent hood of the hospital's hyperbaric oxygen unit. Architects responsible for the overall project are Hospital Design Partnership, of London.

Hospital rises as technological memorial in desert

New developments in medicine and health care have provoked such fascination, intrigue and heated debate as the new hospital and research centre built in the desert on the outskirts of Riyadh, the political capital of Saudi Arabia.

It was conceived as part of King Faisal's dream to place his country among the ranks of the advanced nations. With his assassination only a few weeks before the project was completed, the King Faisal Medical City, as it is now called, has become a natural memorial to a monarch.

The first patients should be treated this month in the most technically advanced in-patient and out-patient specialist unit in the world, costing about £100m for the first stage, expense has been no object in equipping every department with the best apparatus money can buy.

More use is made of computers as an aid to diagnosis, treatment and administration than has been seen before in one medical centre, some of the most advanced equipment in radiology, laboratory departments and intensive care wards has been developed specifically for this hospital, so the medical realm will be entering a number of procedures.

The scheme embraces 115 and 116 for many of the 1,200 staff needed to run its miniature city, which includes its own power station, a total energy plan for all eating and lighting.

The use of a total energy scheme is a far-reaching and exciting project in itself, is far in advance of anything being done in comparable circumstances in the United Kingdom, and there is clear irony in the wealthy oil country in the world owing the West how to save energy.

But the centrepiece of the plan is the medical technology system designed to make doctors, nurses, technicians and administrators as efficient as humanly possible by combining the use of men and machines. The argument is simple enough. Doctors should be able to practise medicine, laboratory analyst and technician to apply the particular specialist skills. These exceptional aims mean adding too much routine administration and paperwork, preventing delays in testing patients' records, getting the processes for genetic tests and removing time-consuming chores from the nursing staff. To leave it, an elaborate and over computer and communications network links all the departments and wards of the hospital. Only

time will show whether the idea works to perfection.

There are 14 computer systems installed. Yet it would be misleading to imagine them all in a single machine. Centres with ten machines stretching through the site. There is also special installation forming the hub of the medical information storage and distribution network, but there are many others in separate departments. One controls chemical tests, another monitors patients under intensive care, a third controls complicated radiotherapy machinery and so on.

Dr Kenneth Williams, consultant to the Royal Cabinet Office, believes the medical capacity available under one roof is equivalent to seven or more conventionally equipped hospitals and clinics. On this basis there is an argument to suggest that equipping such a battery of modern technology is affordable on economic grounds. However, this is not the key benefit. The exploitation of technology allows Saudi Arabia to overcome some of the desperate restrictions imposed otherwise by the shortage of trained people from graduate to apprenticeship levels in all skills.

Advisers to the Saudi Government are hopeful that other developing countries will follow their example. They speak enthusiastically of the centre becoming a Mecca for medical technology. For the project, it is claimed to be the first application of a total medical technology system. The ideas behind it have been strong enough to attract experienced physicians and surgeons from teaching hospitals and clinics in the United States, France and Britain.

Unlikely as it may seem, for a country with a secondary education system only 20 years old, some of the technology under development at Riyadh is already filtering back to influence work in the United Kingdom and the United States. Already a trek is beginning of medical advisers and planners of health services from the industrialized and Third World countries to see if a blueprint exists for their future developments.

The challenge for the Saudis is to integrate the new specialist centre with the country's developing health service and with international health programmes. International co-operation was high on King Faisal's list of priorities for the hospital. Saudi Arabia offers an important opportunity for starting work on epidemiology. However, the initial effort must be to learn how best to use this unique medical centre. Before that happens, some basic misconceptions need

clearing up. The main one is the notion that the centre is a prestige private clinic devised to treat those Middle East princes and Sheikhs (and there are several thousand of them) who flock to the Mayh London and comparable clinics in Switzerland at the first twinge of an ailment.

Certainly, the medical centre will be treating patients who hitherto could only obtain specialist attention in Europe or the United States, but this applies to any Saudi citizen who, unable to obtain correct treatment through the country's medical services, has the right to seek the treatment abroad at the expense of the public service.

Another cause for misunderstanding lies in the conception of the hospital. It was a special undertaking by a medical and technical team appointed by King Faisal to be run by his personal physician, Dr Ali Rifat, through the Royal Cabinet Office, which is the Saudi equivalent of a council of ministers.

The main health programme, including the building of nearly 70 new general hospitals throughout the country, comes under the Minister for Health. The inspiration for the specialist centre at Riyadh came from a fierce ideal, which could be compared to the zeal behind the building of the National Health Service in Britain.

In common with all the main economic and social developments in progress in Saudi Arabia, the specialist centre reflects the aspirations of Faisal and his followers about the political and welfare needs of his kingdom. It is the philosophy he instilled on his early time public affairs, after declaring that the community was still rooted in hereditary tribalism and almost devoid of schools, hospitals, roads, teachers, doctors, engineers, businessmen and administrators.

It is best explained in a tribute from Dr Ali Rifat, who suggests that the King Faisal Medical City is the embodiment of human hopes, skill and knowledge. While accepting that progress must inevitably depend on conquering illiteracy and disease, the Faisal idea was not to spend decades on "possibly" centuries advancing by traditional routes to become a technological society.

In the same way, Dr Rifat sees no inconsistency in making the enormous technical and scientific leap involved in creating the world's most advanced specialist hospital and medical research centre. The Saudis clearly find no difference between this goal

and the way they are building a modern air force and army, establishing a communications network with links into the global satellite system, and educating a pool of highly-trained scientists and technologists abroad and increasingly at home.

The King Faisal Medical City is only one example of a society making a leap from the Middle Ages into the twentieth century. To put the ideas into practice they must buy both the people and the technology from the West, then establish the viral level of education and training necessary for transferring technology to the next generation of Saudis can continue the progress.

The Saudis are not prepared to wait innumerable generations, as man has done in the past, to achieve progress. The Faisal school of thinking argues that Saudis will start where human knowledge has ended: consequently their progress should differ from the industrial countries by making available the benefits without the "moral degradation of the West."

This view is derived from an analysis suggesting that technical advances have gradually undermined social values in the industrial countries, whereas technology has come so rapidly to Saudi Arabia that the same dangers of losing a spiritual heritage do not exist.

Nevertheless there are many questions to be resolved such as how long it takes for the replacement doctors, nurses and technical staff to be trained to sustain developments like the King Faisal Hospital. People attracted to the venture have come partly because they are being asked to work on the frontiers of their particular discipline.

Dr Rifat foresees no insuperable difficulties in providing successors at the new centre. One of the comparisons he draws is with Beduin who five or six years ago were illiterate, but who now operate Hawk missiles and are efficiently flying Lightnings. An earlier successful project in training skilled engineers and management teams was carried out at Aramco, the giant Arabian American Oil Company, whose original oil concession required the training of Saudis in specialized jobs eventually to replace foreign nationals.

The compelling reason for Saudi Arabia to start technically at the top is the shortage of skilled people. Although in area about the size of Western Europe, the country has a population the size of Austria. Full-scale economic and social development of this

large territory would be slow even with an established high level of education throughout and an experienced public administration. As an alternative, the Saudis intend using technologies that reduce the demand for people and to use advanced projects such as the Faisal medical scheme to provide an impetus to other groups.

With 250 beds, and plans for expansion to 500 beds, the King Faisal specialist hospital is for the referral of cases from anywhere in the kingdom.

There are critics of the enterprise who are not so much disenchanted with this particular undertaking as unhappy about other schemes that they feel should be progressing equally rapidly. The first group of medical students for expansion to 500 beds, for instance, have reached their fourth year. The first intake of women medical students started this year.

Expansion of the university campus has to take its turn with the many other sectors of higher education which the Department of Education is establishing throughout the country.

As a result, the facilities available for what should become the first generation of Saudi medical practitioners rank very poorly against even modest British or American medical schools. Some years ago the foundation stone was laid in desert marking a campus of some 150 sq kilometres for a new university. When it is built it should be among the finest designed. Yet since laying that foundation stone the King Faisal specialist hospital has been conceived and completed.

Similar frustrations face doctors in general hospitals waiting for new wards to be built in their district. Yet a five-year development plan for the Saudi economy includes plans for nearly 70 new district hospitals. Some are already at an advanced stage with special attention paid to regions that have been without facilities or suffered particularly severe urban growth.

While understanding the impossibility of doing everything at once, those medical practitioners who have been waiting for improvements in their working conditions look wistfully at the lavishness and speed with which the Riyadh programme has been conducted. The King Faisal Hospital and research centre is a bid to set a standard of medicine and health care equal to any in the world. The effort has brought and will bring those concerned under the most exacting scrutiny from their professional peers which might ultimately be difficult to live with.

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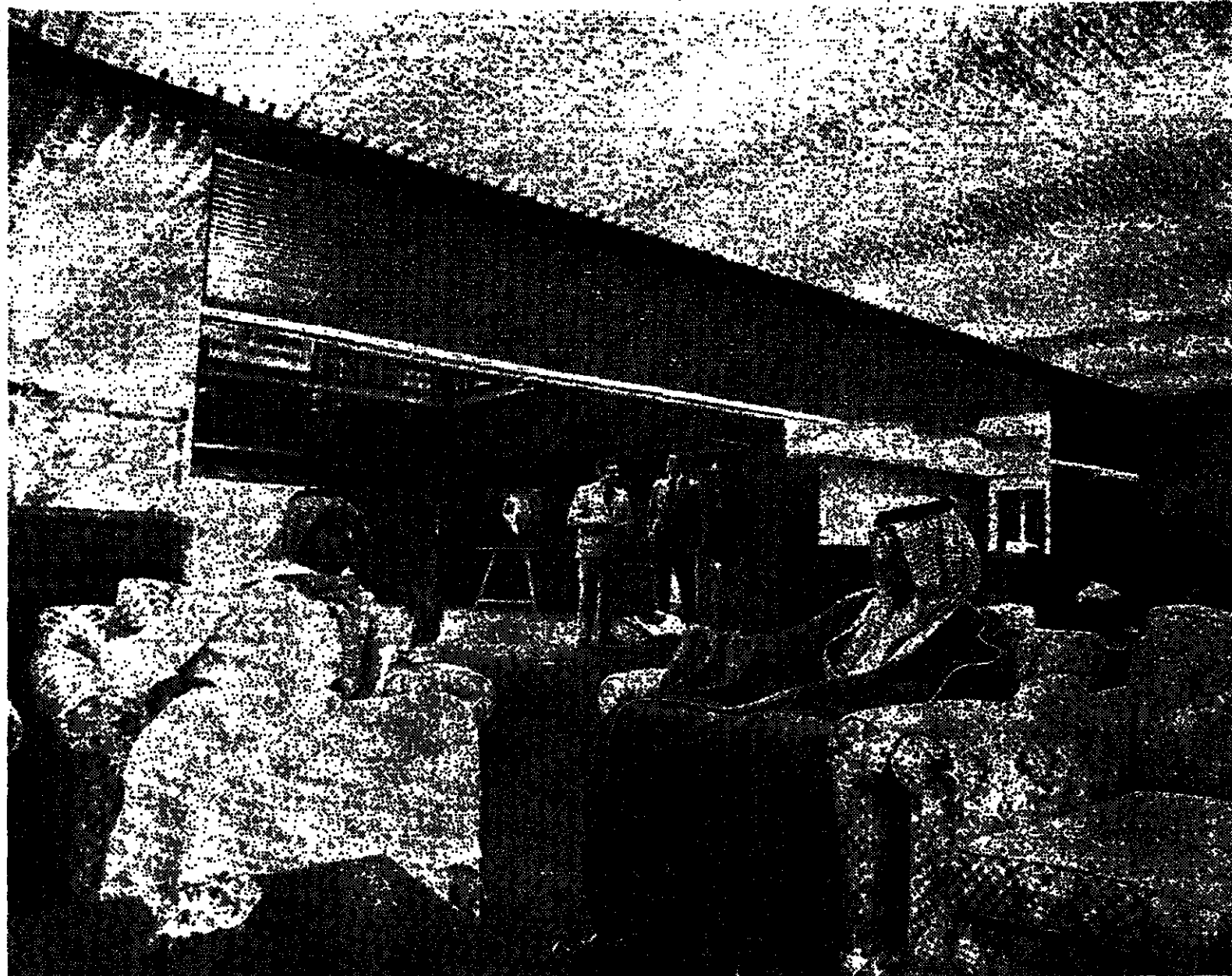
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Present depends on the skilled colonialists . . .



The lounge and main waiting room area.

Events in the Middle East have given birth to a new breed of people—the technological colonialists. They differ from the old colonialists in two main ways: they arrive by invitation and from the outset part of their job is to ensure that successors are trained as soon as possible to take over.

The skills they bring cover such things as computers, satellite communications, atomic energy for desalination, agriculture, and specialist weapons knowledge in aircraft, missiles and radar.

Over the past two years engineers and technologists have been pouring into the oil states, particularly Saudi Arabia, in the hope of benefiting from some of the money almost swamping previously backward countries. For a person technically qualified in almost any sub-

ject the opportunity exists of a job allowing him to bank tax-free within two years anything from £15,000 to £20,000.

In Riyadh, the political capital of Saudi Arabia, there are more than 2,000 expatriate British and 3,000 Americans just training the new Air Force and teaching the Army to handle ground-to-ground missiles and other weapons.

There are many more in the country who are involved in designing and building chemical plants, cement works, water purification systems, docks and ports, trunk roads and urban developments, to name a few. In general these people are working under contract for a European, American or perhaps Japanese firm. Their conditions differ from some of those working directly for Saudi Arabian organizations.

The contrasts are thrown into sharp relief by an undertaking like the King Faisal Hospital. It has been designed and constructed by hundreds of experts from almost every continent, working under contract to their respective firms. With the completion of the project the pattern has changed in consequence of the takeover of the hospital by the medical, nursing, technical and service staff, totalling more than 1,200, working for the Saudi administration.

When the hospital was no more than a passionate ambition held by King Faisal for his people, the visiting architects and planners from the West could find rooms in hotels on their excursions to sell their ideas. Even though hotel space has subsequently trebled, the chances of finding a room even with six months' warning are slight. Companies and contractors have standing block bookings and still

get into difficulties. One of the big aerospace companies has bought its own hotel to resolve the problem.

The rapidly developing alternative is the renting of villas. But again demand has far outstripped supply, and prices have soared. In one case a small villa with two bedrooms, dining room, kitchen, bathroom and separate lavatory cost £50 a week last year; the rate has more than doubled on renewal of contract.

Houseboys, mostly Yemenis, are paid from £50 to £60 a month. There is even great competition between the companies for car drivers, inevitably forcing up wages, to the consternation of established organisations.

In a small way this most natural of circumstances, the pressure of market forces, symbolizes the real divide between the Saudis and the

technologists invited to modernize their country. The Saudis believe they can make the great leap of centuries from a medieval system to a technically advanced one without suffering the "moral degradation" of the West. An almost instinctive response on the part of most foreigners working in the country has been tacit understandings about avoiding discussion of politics and religion.

Although the reasons may not be the same, the pattern of past colonialism is repeated, with the expatriates creating their own social environment. Provided that their activities are limited to their communities the authorities show great tolerance; but parties, drinking and flirtation, unexceptionable to the westerner, must not be allowed to spill over. Ironically the design of houses in Saudi Arabia, which isolates women from

the world, creates ideal conditions for these self-contained colonies.

All villas have high walls. Only within this refuge may most women remove their veils. Whatever the depth of religious conviction behind the attitudes of male domination, the country is deprived automatically of half its potential workforce. This raises obvious questions such as: how do you staff a specialist hospital in need of skilled nurses and other services? The short-term answer is that you engage in a vast recruiting campaign everywhere possible.

Accommodation for nurses and other female staff is provided in one of the residential blocks on the hospital site. Apartments consist of efficiency units with a studio couch, shower and kitchenette. There are two-room units for the senior staff.

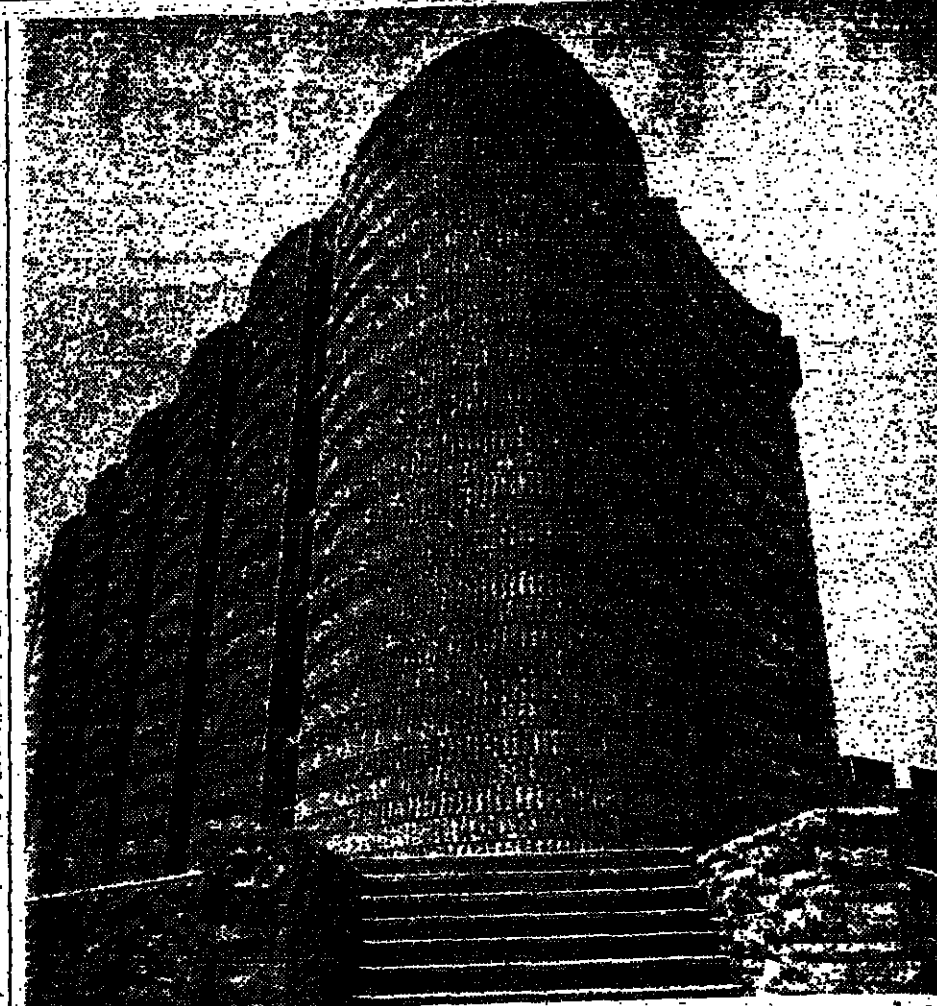
Accommodation is well conceived

In principle accommodation at the hospital is well conceived. In practice the planning team had to contend with the surge of businessmen descending on Riyadh. Calculations made five years ago allowed for a mixture of residential blocks and villas on site, rented villas in the city and the use of hotel rooms over a period of a year or so of setting down. As the recruiting campaign began last autumn it became obvious that most of the accommodation had to be provided on site.

Some of the early tensions are directly attributable to these troubles. There were basic disagreements over what members of the staff had been led to expect and what they found on arrival. In a country in which skill is at a premium such mistakes can be costly.

The swimming pool, sports and amenity centre at the hospital are first-class. On the other hand there seems not much other entertainment apart from picnics in the desert on a Friday. But for some people the desert is an endless source of exploration and for others it is apparently an interminable wilderness.

The markets and bazaars in Saudi Arabia of course are not unique, but those in Riyadh seem less frenetic and less mindful of time than any I have visited elsewhere. The people seem neither more nor less colourful, simply warmer. If this is the quality to be preserved from western intrusion, long may it survive.



Thousands of honey-gold stone blocks were cut at a desert quarry to create the intricate patterns and curves of the exterior.

... future depends on training

The long-term success of the King Faisal Hospital, or any other project in Saudi Arabia for that matter, will depend on the ability of the Arabs to educate a new generation to take over from the imported experts.

The hospital is a fascinating example because the nearest university, which opened in the city more than 25 years ago, has its first crop of medical students in their fourth year. The opportunities for study make rather a shabby comparison with the wonders of the new hospital up the road. Not even the foundation stone has been laid for the teaching hospital where the budding doctors should be doing clinical training, and unfortunately they get too little practical experience.

The little students do get at a general hospital in unsatisfactory for teaching purposes and they are not allowed to examine women patients. In common with most pioneers, the morale of these students is unbelievably high. Without doubt, in these militant days any medical student in the United Kingdom would have walked out instead of trying to cope with the overcrowded conditions of laboratories and lecture theatres at Riyadh University medical school. Something like 70 preclinical students share one skeleton for anatomy, simply because there is no

chance of getting hold of another one. The most encouraging sign for the future is the intake this year of the first batch of 30 women medical students. Against the background of male domination, this could be an enormous breakthrough. However, these women cannot be taught by men, who dominate the clinical teaching positions, and the only recourse, therefore, will be to teach them by closed-circuit television. No sketch writer could have dreamed of a more bizarre proposition.

Perhaps that judgment is unfair on a country and culture moving in so short a time from feudalism to the twentieth century. The Saudis are trying to move on all fronts at once. With no established infrastructure of administration in the Civil Service, business or industry this presents clear and formidable issues.

Education in Saudi Arabia is not only free but the Government pays monthly allowances to students in certain stages of study. Incidentally there can be no other country where the foreigner can join adult education courses at no cost.

The vast increases in oil revenue have allowed the education programme to be expanded from about £35m for all levels 12 years ago to more than £275m a year

ago. During that period number of elementary schools for pupils from age of six was doubled, number of junior schools was increased from 65 to 359, and secondary education from six schools to 68 classes totalling 1 pupils to 67 schools to 15,675 pupils. A large proportion of teaching is done by expatriates, but over same period the teaching staffs were doubled.

This type of expansion echoed in technical institutes, colleges of education and so on. At the university the same rate of expansion has been attempted, but great drawback comes from the teachers. During the years in question student population Riyadh University has risen from 1,005 to 4,369, men and females.

The educational upsurge in Saudi Arabia is only years old and dates from the establishment of the Ministry of Education. There can be little doubt in appreciating the problems of trying to implement a programme in a country the size of a continent, so sparsely populated and so far from reliable communications such as roads or telecommunications links. But the oil companies began to move in the largest source of income was the haj or pilgrimage.



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EMI brain scanner. Right: a full body plethymograph in the pulmonary function laboratory. Top: a nurse checks a patient in a recovery room of the intensive care unit.



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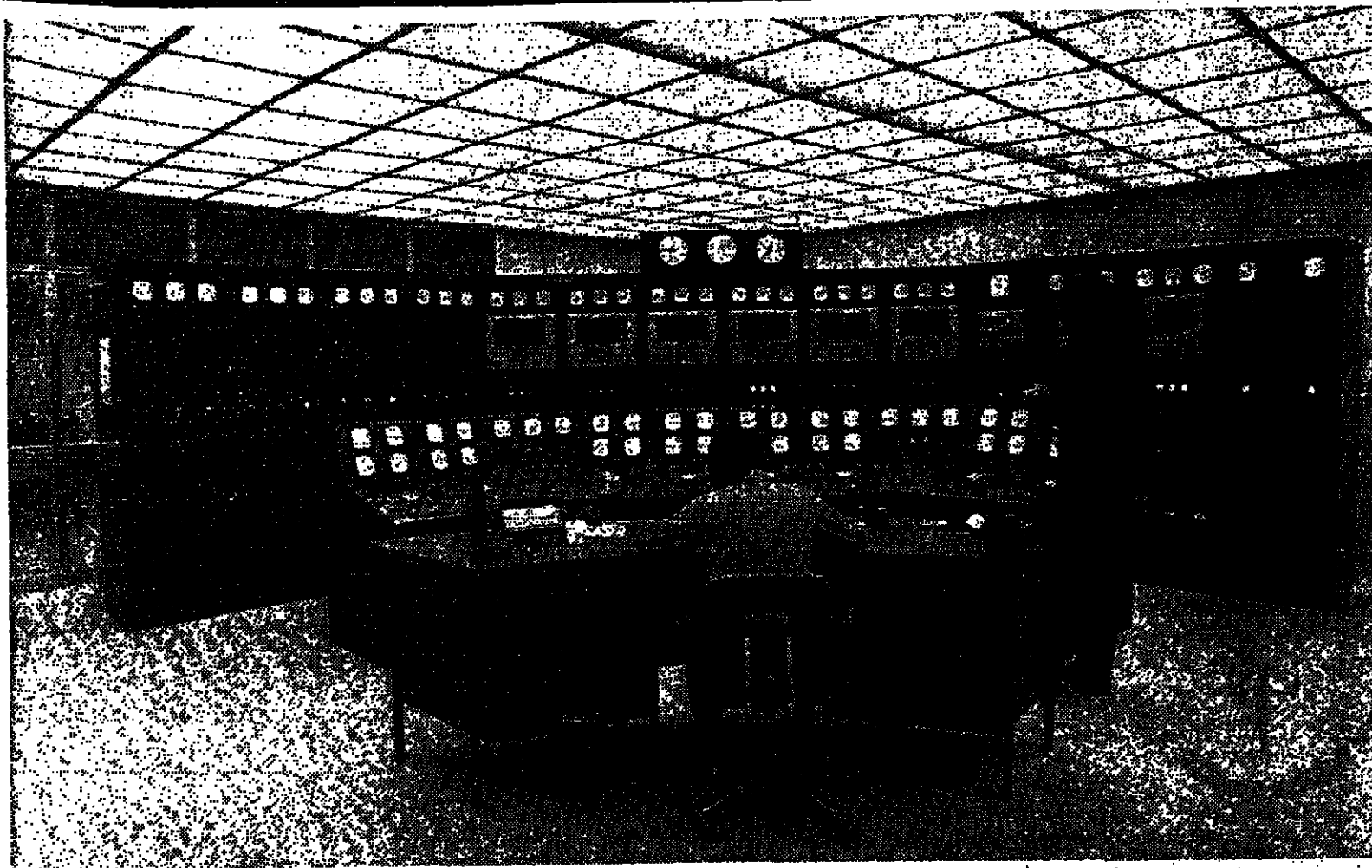
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The power house control room, focal point for the hospital's complicated and varying energy needs.

Accommodation like a five-star hotel

If the world's most modern hospital, which has been opened in Saudi Arabia, had been completed on time the life of King Faisal might have been saved. This medical centre not only incorporates the most advanced equipment for intensive care, including that necessary for emergency open heart and brain surgery, but it has been constructed on a site adjacent to the Royal Palace in Riyadh.

With its elaborate methods for intensive care, the King Faisal Hospital should provide the best medical treatment available. Each patient has a private double room and both of up to five-star hotel standard; and the banks of computers devised for analysing medical records, streamlining administration and controlling laboratory equipment even ensure that each patient gets the correct breakfast.

It is a bit harsh to criticise the late completion of the project. No enterprise on this scale and embracing so much advanced technology has progressed as quickly before in Saudi Arabia. But it has not been achieved without controversy and setbacks. Some recent troubles

in the past few weeks involve issues raising natural anxieties about the future of this ambitious scheme.

The Faisal hospital project was one of the ventures discussed at the time of the Poulson inquiries; his firm produced the original designs for the building.

Indeed, there are many fascinating aspects to the origins of the project. The need for a specialist hospital was among the list of priorities drawn up almost 10 years ago by King Faisal as desirable to take his kingdom from backwardness into the twentieth century.

Among those with whom he discussed the idea were executives from the Vickers group of companies, selling arms to the Middle East countries. The group was trying to spread into the medical equipment business. The chance to produce a complete modern hospital was so attractive that executives of the firm discussed the question of a loan to King Faisal for the scheme.

It may seem ironic now in the light of the \$800m a year spent by Saudi Arabia on guns and bullets alone; and that is not much more than

the value of three weeks' oil production.

The necessity for a loan to be considered such a short time ago, indicates how quickly Saudi Arabia has emerged as a state of wealth. As Vickers had no experience in hospital design and building, Mr John Poulson was invited to provide a plan. It was accepted by advisers to Faisal and the estimates adopted as a fixed price contract between Vickers and the Saudi Royal Cabinet Office; thereby lay the first stumbling block on the road to completion.

Dr Kenneth Williams, the permanent consultant to the Royal Cabinet Office and formerly the director of the Vickers medical equipment company, still maintains that Mr Poulson was brilliant in his field.

The foundation stone was laid towards the end of 1970. The main difficulty came some time afterwards when it was clear to Vickers that the cost of the project was almost doubling. However, unlike in negotiations of arms sales and strategic military goods, the Saudis made it clear that they were not prepared to renegotiate a new contract price.

Work stopped for several months before Vickers was able to withdraw with substantial loss from the job and in the process pay off Mr Poulson. Another prime construction contractor took over and a new group of architects was found with special experience in hospital design and construction.

Alterations were made to the buildings after the changeover. Special cavity ceilings were torn out to be replaced by a more advanced type of sterile ceiling deemed essential for the patient care areas, and other modifications made. These delays were responsible to some extent for the deterioration of material.

An American company had agreed to supply all the basic equipment which arrived 16 months ago in several hundred shipment containers. These sat baking in the worst conditions of desert sand and heat imaginable.

A fine film of dust lies over the area permanently and the most sensitive apparatus can be safeguarded only by a 100 per cent effective air conditioning system. Mistakes such as the improper storage of furniture, machinery or instruments can be

remedied at a price; and provided it is only money that is in question then the Saudis can afford the mistake.

What is more serious is recent trouble over staffing. In the past few weeks the senior administrator, a chief surgeon and chief nurse, and the director of personnel have been dismissed. This happened before the hospital had taken its first patient. A better understanding of the professional standards evolved in the West is clearly going to be necessary if the Saudis expect to achieve the same level of medical treatment.

The organizations which completed the project included some of the most experienced hospital design, construction and equipment makers in America and Europe. Among them were Hospital Design Partnership, London; Parsons Brown, Middlesex; Haden International, London; Aster, Milan; Ruston Gas Turbines, Lincoln; Sovex, Kent; Honeywell, Berkshire; Hospital Corporation of America; American Hospital Supply Corporation; Selcon, London; Sony Corporation; Hewlett Packard, Switzerland; Philips, Holland; Davis, Belfield and Everest, London.



Part of the vast engine room, which was built to make the hospital self-sufficient for its main services.

Supply of power is lesson to West

It may seem ironic that country like Saudi Arabia, the biggest oil producer in the world, should develop technology to teach the West how to save energy.

But this is what happens when plans were made for the 250-bed King Faisal Hospital at Riyadh. The hospital, with a staff of 12 mainly living on site, cannot be supported by a local city power station; complete reliability of supply could not be guaranteed. The technical advisers to hospital project also want to move to a different frequency and voltage standard of operation.

The hospital, therefore, has to be self-contained in its main services. Dr Mohamed Obaid, the chief engineer on mechanical and electrical services, described how, being this about, the hospital was divided into four functional groups. When it came to designing the air conditioning, heating and other systems needed from engineering services, the groups of clinics and residential quarters, ambulance and amenity units, different priorities. For example, double ceilings, walls were essential in wards, theatre blocks and treatment rooms for oxygen and gas supplies for no other reason.

The basic system designed round six Ruston TA1500 heavy duty industrial gas turbine generators ordered under a contract. The contract included exhaust heat recovery boilers, switchgear, control cabinets, transformers and cabling. In a later appraisal of the hospital needs, the number of generating sets was increased to eight.

Generation of power for the air conditioning system is operated from the plant to make the best of the available energy. Waste heat from the turbines is used in the boiler to produce steam for 4,500-ton air-conditioning condensers. From the air-conditioning plant, chilled water is piped to plant rooms through the hospital, which is fully controlled in terms of environmental conditions.

Water supply in Saudi Arabia is obviously an issue for concern. Though it is no surface water anywhere in the country, the aquifers are substantial. The hospital in Riyadh uses mains pipes, but local boreholes into the water table have been made. The treated water supply to the hospital is stored in tanks for up to 14 days and pressure maintained from a water tower containing two 500,000-gallon tanks. Engineering services are also called upon to ensure special supplies of medical gases, vacuum, steam, water and oxygen.

All these services are via the special corridor false floors and ceiling causing minimum disturbance to the rest of the building. However, such a variety of services demands accurate methods of design and monitoring, which carried out by a Honeywell Delta computer system. Surveys up to 3,000 operating conditions through the engineering plant of hospital are fed into a pre-set working condition or clear fault is registered on a panel of warning lights. The warning light stays lit until a fault has been remedied.

The gas turbine system also provides a district heating network to the residential, amenity and other buildings on the site. A sterile air flow is essential for hospital air conditioning of the engineering services making it necessary to have an open-loop system drawn in from the atmosphere is filtered before being passed through the water coils of the generating plant. After circulating through hospital departments, the air is ventilated to the atmosphere. In the design, a constant valve technique was chosen. Temperature is regulated by heating the air conditioning inlets to individual rooms. The air conditioning system work at a constant 20°C.

As with the medical technology system and the energy engineering of power supplies, all the furnishing and equipping of the hospital has been done on a building systems design, a scheme where all elements are functionally related. Furnishings, wall finishes, curtains, floor coverings have been selected to reconcile needs for hygiene, patient comfort and method of reducing noise.

Where appropriate, special furnishings have been selected to combine patient comfort with minimum nursing work. An example is that each patient's room is equipped with an electric bed and with a bedside transmitter for opening and closing curtains.

Computer-guided nurses

The King Faisal specialist hospital brought into operation this month will be used to treat patients who previously would have been sent to Europe or America for medical care. Although the construction of the most advanced centre in the world in terms of equipment may help to overcome the gap in local medical services, Saudi Arabia still lacks the trained doctors and nurses to carry out the necessary work. Creating the most striking piece of architecture to have emerged from the desert for many years will not overcome the difficulty.

To exacerbate matters from a nursing standpoint, the new 250-bed hospital has luxurious individual rooms for its patients. This may be comforting for the sick, but supervising people on this system places an enormous strain on nursing resources. The old-fashioned multi-bed ward may be an eyesore to the designer of a modern hospital in which expense is no object, but it has certain advantages when it comes to monitoring a large number of patients with a limited number of staff.

If the number of nursing staff for each patient is not to rise too high, individual rooms of the type at the King Faisal hospital need every labour saving aid imaginable. Not surprisingly one of the most important of these is a remote control patient-nurse communications link.

Communication sets are located at all patients' bedside, central nursing stations and utility points. They are connected to one central console through which all activities are controlled. Calls by patients and the attendance of staff are indicated on the console by coloured lights. The console operator can speak directly to patients over an intercom system and relay messages or requests to nurses and other staff.

The control console, called Televis, incorporates a PDP 11/10 computer to keep a log of all actions and to detect emergencies. It is also connected to Hewlett-Packard cardiac, post-operative and intensive care monitoring systems that can send alarms by way of the Televis centre.

Great emphasis has been placed on computers. In practice the emphasis should perhaps be placed on the cleverness with which the communications networks have been interlinked to produce the most advanced medical technology system built so far.

True, the communications system would not have been much good without the computer equipment and other electronic devices feeding information into the network. But the telecommunication links extend much further than data gathering and the

nurse-call alarms within the building. As a specialist hospital taking cases referred for treatment, an elaborate ambulance service has been established for people in need of intensive care; an ambulance service is included to land at the hospital's own heliport.

This flying doctor will bring patients from clinics at certain centres where diagnosis may be possible over telephone links between the local specialist and the consultants at the hospital. All ambulances and aircraft have the same ability to make these links through which portable cardiac machines can relay signals of a patient's heart condition to the main hospital.

In mobile units these links are used only to keep a continuous check on critical patients. In practice it means that a severely ill patient can effectively be admitted before reaching hospital. Apart from creating the initial record prepared for all patients on entering the reception area, doctors should have enough data reaching the cardiac analysts in the clinic to know what sort of a room and medication should be made ready.

The main centres to have clinics with cardiac terminals for routine use are at Jiddah, Mecca, Delf and Mina.



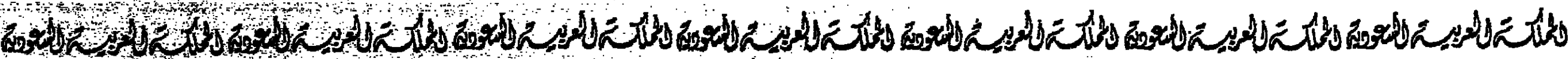
Calls by patients are received and nurses directed to particular rooms by the central calling station, which was designed to keep down staff numbers.

ASTER as Mechanical Contractor for the King Faisal Specialist Hospital, Riyadh, has executed the following mechanical installations:

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HEALTH, WELFARE AND EDUCATION

In 1969, the Saudi Arabian Council of Ministers outlined the first five-year development plan (1976-1975).¹ Its fundamental aims were to safeguard religious and ethical values; to promote the well-being of the people; to improve their standard of living; and maintain economic and social stability.

A crowning achievement of the plan as far as health is concerned has been the creation of the King Faisal Medical City and its unique hospital which will set a new standard in the world of medicine.

Through the Ministry of Health, the Government has always given special attention to the health services of citizens as well as visitors and pilgrims.

For the welfare of citizens and pilgrims, hospitals and health units have been established in every place, especially the pilgrimage areas. Large sums of money are allocated each year to increase the number of hospitals and health units. The Quarantine of Jewish is considered one of the most notable accomplishments in the field of preventive medicine. It is veritably a city by itself, comprising 150 buildings on a total area of 228,000 square metres.

(a) The Eastern Section which includes 64 buildings plus 16 others for taking samples and specimens. All the buildings are provided with modern equipment for the application of up-to-date techniques.

(b) The Western Section includes the administration offices, the steam sterilizing rooms, public baths, laundries, and a bacteriological laboratory.

Other health projects include the conservation of Zamzam water, which becomes in great demand during the pilgrimage season, to ascertain that pilgrims obtain this water through modern means that assure maximum safety.

Moreover, pilgrims' lodging places and the houses of "mutawwifs" (pilgrim guides) are subjected to health control and supervision.

Meanwhile, health awareness and guidance are propagated among pilgrims and citizens alike through publications, posters and local information media such as the press, radio and television.

While considerable attention is given to preventive measures as an international health necessity and to assure the safety of pilgrims, visiting the Holy Places, great efforts are being exerted in the field of preventive medicine to raise local health standards.

For this purpose, a number of preventive medicine facilities and health offices have been established. There are now 10 directorates of health affairs which administer curative and preventive medicine throughout the country.

An accomplishment in the field of health development is the anti-tuberculosis campaign, a project which resulted in the establishment of a chest diseases department to supervise and coordinate the preventive and curative activities of the campaign.

An anti-tuberculosis immunization campaign has been carried out

through the Kingdom, including an X-Ray and tuberculin test programme

Research studies have been made to ascertain the incidence of the disease, and the best methods of treatment and prevention. These studies helped in the improvement of medical services rendered to patients by facilitating the identification of victims and hence their prompt treatment.

Specialized groups and establishments launch, periodically, a smallpox immunization campaign that covers the whole Kingdom, and undertake investigation studies as required under the international strategy set for combating the disease. Anti-cholera campaigns are carried out by means of supplying the population with supplies of vaccine and therapeutic medicines. To eradicate malaria from the country several stations have been established, most recent of which was the Jayvan station inaugurated in 1971. These steps have been successful in eradicating the disease from the environment, thanks to the efforts of the stations and as a result of environmental health improvement projects.

Last year, eight stations were opened for combating bilharzia, one each in Riyadh, Ar'ar, Abha, Najran Jayzan, Mecca and Medina. Two of these stations will be for guidance purposes.

For health education and training, three institutes, in Riyadh, Jeddah and Safwa, have been established to provide qualified medical aides, health supervisors, and male nurses. The duration of study in these institutes is three years. Although they were established a few years ago, several

Four schools for female nurses have also been opened in Riyadh, Jeddah, Hofuf and Jayzan; the last one was Jayzan school which was

In 1972, new regulations were issued requiring physicians to work exclusively in the public facilities they are assigned to. They also regulate the operation of private clinics. These regulations, which have not as yet been put into full effect, are designed to improve the health services available to the citizens. Such a step required the allocation of additional sums of money to compensate physicians and other workers in health facilities at an average rate of 80% of their basic salaries.

As a result of this measure the whole medical system has been made available to serve the people for three more hours in the evening, in addition to the usual six hours of the morning.

The social development projects include the establishment of mother and child care centres. Besides, some ministries provide separate health services. For instance, there are special hospitals for the military, and the Ministry of Education has a special students' hospital. Then there are the private hospitals.

In addition to the numerous hospitals, health centres and clinics, the Ministry of Health has introduced mobile health units that cover the whole country and provide medical care to remote areas and nomadic bedouins. Most of these facilities have been greatly improved and developed to come with social development and the needs of the people.

Between 1965 and 1974 the number of hospitals increased from 46 with 4,902 beds to 51 hospitals with 8,132 beds. The number of clinics also

increased from 124 to 190. Instead of 89 mobile units, we now have 343 units, distributed among the various parts of the Kingdom to undertake regular trips according to a pre-set schedule.

The number of physicians increased from 510 to 1,081, while the number of medical aides, nurses, laboratory and X-ray technicians has increased from 1,294 to 4,742.

The Ministry established a protective cordon along the frontiers of the Kingdom, especially in the pilgrims' points of entry. This cordon, which includes 33 quarantines, laboratories and blood banks, is designed to give the Kingdom adequate protection against epidemics.

In the advent of the pilgrimage season each year, the Ministry of Health specifies the points of entry to the Kingdom by land or air in order to facilitate health control procedures. When the pilgrimage is over, no pilgrim is allowed to depart the country until the area has been declared clean and free from epidemic diseases by the consensus of the medical missions accompanying the pilgrims of the Arab and Muslim countries.

It has been the policy of the Government to provide medical care free of charge to all citizens, whether within the Kingdom or abroad for those who cannot pay for their treatment if such treatment is not available in local hospitals. In order to save citizens the hardships attendant on seeking treatment abroad, His Majesty the late King Faisal ordered that a model hospital of the highest standard should be established. On 11 November,

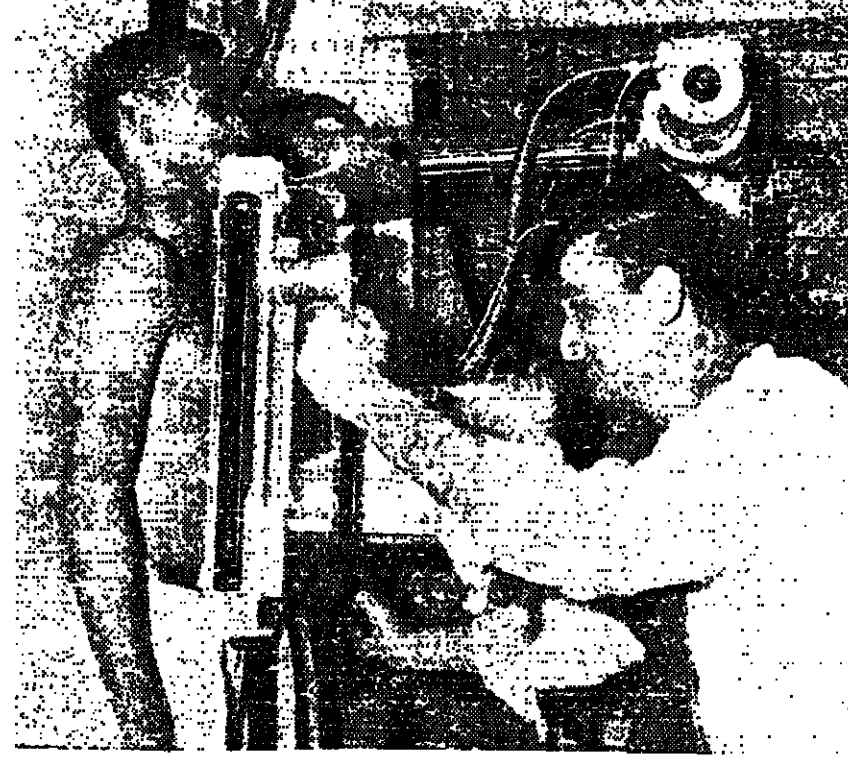
Two weeks ago His Majesty King Khalid officially opened the hospital. The King Faisal Medical City is now in the final stages of completion. Altogether three contracts for nine million dollars were signed with three international companies to supply the following :

1. Fifteen electronic computers to be used for coordination of hospital operation and analysis of medical data and laboratory reports.
2. Electronic equipment for analysis of heart function.
3. A closed circuit television for the operation rooms and other specialized divisions of the hospital.

The initial capacity of the hospital will be 250 beds, each in a separate room equipped with all the necessary facilities. Some of these beds will be used for the treatment of artery occlusion cases, burns and kidney diseases; and some of them will be used for the observation of patients who undergo delicate operations.

Phase II will increase the capacity of the hospital to 450 beds. It has been taken into consideration in the design that the construction of Phase II will be carried out with normal operation of the hospital. Utilities constructed under Phase I will be adequate for the entire hospital after completion of the second phase.

The hospital will contain a number of units for complicated surgery and diagnosis. It will have four operation rooms for general procedure with specialized equipment for heart, chest, eye, and neuro-surgery as well as obstetrics and paediatrics. It will be equipped with an artificial kidney unit and a factory for kidney and heart transplants. The X-ray section will be provided with equipment for radiological treatment of malignant tumours. A modern radioactive isotopes unit will also be provided.



Tomorrow's citizens; top, left to right—food for the future at Al Khars; today's children at a Riyadh school; and a farmworker brings in the harvest by tractor. Bottom, left to right—training some of tomorrow's teachers at the Jeddah Institute of Teachers; part of the new King Faisal Hospital, Riyadh; and X-ray treatment at a country hospital.

A member of the Weston-Evans Group

Now the hospital works: articles on this page and page IX look in detail at some of the medical equipment and services provided

Automation helps to solve a testing problem

Many laboratories run a range of biochemical tests on all patients as a matter of routine, making a swift check against a number of possible clear-cut orders. As a result, work has increased in big departments by as many as 30 analyses a day with any undue increase in size of staff.

Assessments of the introduction of the necessary automated apparatus to make these tests indicates errors in laboratory results have also fallen from nothing like 5 per cent to out 1 per cent. Hence, in a country such as Saudi Arabia with an acute shortage of skilled people, automated laboratory testing has various attractions.

Large automatic analysers check 60 samples an hour

for 12 different aspects of blood chemistry. With other automated machinery, more than 256 tests can be made on samples. The laboratory at the new King Faisal Hospital is like an enormous open-plan analytical centre.

Few open-plan offices can compare in scale with this enormous room filled with wipe-down benches and countless instruments flickering their results on coloured lights and signal panels. Much of the routine apparatus comes from the Technicon Corporation that has done so much to pioneer automated analysers, not just in the United States but in the rest of the western world.

There is an interesting comparison to be made between the Saudi need for time. Laboratories are now automated laboratories and highly organized production shops. But even by the most advanced American standards, the laboratory at the King Faisal Hospital in Saudi Arabia is astonishing.

In common with every other department in the hospital, the laboratory belongs to the Network 320 system, or the ring of terminals by which information is transferred from one department to another. What this means is that laboratory analysis is done in a new dimension for medical diagnosis. Before the computer's natural mathematical powers have proved incalculably efficient in turning the time-consuming chore of laboratory analysis into a new dimension for medical diagnosis. Before large-scale automation the laboratory received a multiplicity of largely handwritten slips asking for work to be done — as indeed most laboratories in the United Kingdom do today.

Some of them are written by doctors and some by nurses. Frequently they are carbon copies of a highly difficult handwriting: the room for mistakes is obvious. Transcription errors are eliminated from the system at the King Faisal Hospital.

Savings are not just the elimination of mistakes. Automated machinery can make tests in batteries of 12 to 20 samples at a time which, among other things, cuts down dramatically on the amount of reagents used to add to a sample for a particular analysis. Ten years ago one test cost almost £1. A batch of 12 can be done today for less than that. By any standard of medical progress or inflation that is a remarkable achievement.

Automation in this form is essential to designing a rapid screening service for both in-patients and out-patients. For the out-patient, one begins with the interview in the clinic housing a machine on which questions on health matters are flashed on to a screen. In the same clinic basic characteristics about the weight, height, lung capacity and blood pressure of a

patient are taken and fed into a central file. Technicians then take blood samples for the laboratory tests, to be added later to any subsequent request for X-rays and other checks from which the computer systems will pick out anomalies.

Gas chromatography of steroids, estimation of lactic dehydrogenase as a cardiac damage indicator and procedures for radioimmunoassay assessments of various hormones and proteins are the sort of work going in the automation equipment.

Computers have been moving slowly but irretrievably into medicine and the development in Riyadh confirms the inevitable nature of the trend.

Rapid bio-chemical analysis (right) and (below) the computer room.



Nuclear aid in early diagnosis

Part of the plan of the new hospital is to provide treatment with advanced techniques not only in Saudi Arabia but for other Middle East countries as well. This was behind the idea for building a very elaborate radiotherapy and nuclear medicine department under Dr Salah M. el-Akkad.

The centrepiece of the radiotherapy department is a linear accelerator (a MEL SL 75/10) generating intense X-rays of between 7,000,000 and 10,000,000 electron volts intensity, and electrons of 4 to 10 Mev. This apparatus for treating specific categories of tumours has its own control system, including a miniature data processing computer.

Treatment information is fed in on a punched card and the appropriate procedures are then worked out according to the requests of the physician. In the process the machine produces works out the details or pre-primed record of the details of treatment.

The data processing provides a double check as the radiographer puts the patient in the correct position under the machine for treatment. Things like the correct height of the couch, the angle of the machine and the exposure are verified against those calculated by the computer.

Other treatment machines include a source of radioactive caesium and various deep X-ray units. In any radiotherapy department the main problem is to plan the optimum treatment on one of these types of apparatus to take into account the characteristics of the individual patient.

At Riyadh a treatment simulator has been installed that reproduces the conditions under the various machines available. Part of the simulation involves a computer to calculate how best to concentrate X-ray beams on a particular tumour. These are converted into printed information as the treatment prescription for the radiographer.

For treatment of cervical cancer and cancer of the uterus a device known as the Cervitron has been bought. This equipment has much in common with the treatment simulator for the X-ray therapy machines in that it works out the details or pre-primed record of the details of treatment. In general the incidence of cancer of the cervix is low in Muslim countries, as indeed it is among Jews, because of circumcision of the males.

An even greater investment has been made in the nuclear medicine side of the work for early diagnosis of tumours. Much of this technology, which includes machines devised specifically for Riyadh, comes from Nuclear-Chicago, recognized as a world leader in the subject. Briefly, most of the instruments are highly sensitive electronic devices that detect the tiniest traces of radioactive substance. Thus, if a trace of material is given to a patient, it can be tracked in the highest detail through the body. A variety of diseases can be detected in this way.

Among all this elaborate apparatus, the one causing great interest is a tomograph, allegedly capable of identifying a deep-seated tumour less than 2cm in diameter and affecting organs that are extremely difficult to examine by conventional methods.

On the diagnostic X-ray side, the hospital has a range of new equipment to be expected in any modern centre for getting better pictures. But special rooms in the radiology department include one for cardiac catheterization: it is equipped with 35mm cine attachments and a Hewlett-Packard computer to take a record of flow rates, pressure, oxygenation, size of heart chambers and so on.

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American Hospital Supply Corporation is proud to be among the international team of experts which has helped to create the King Faisal Medical City.

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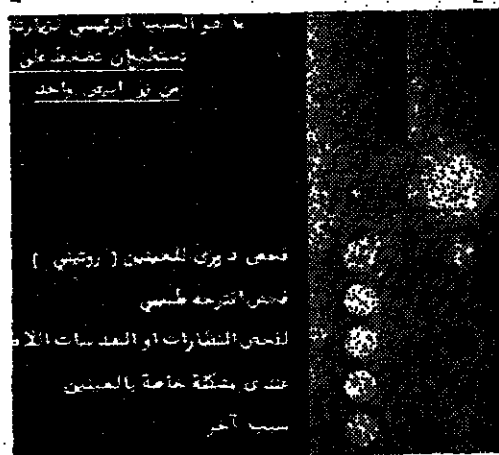
To make effective use of this knowledge and experience, we established a special division, American Health Facilities, specifically to provide planning and management services to hospitals. To date, we have helped plan

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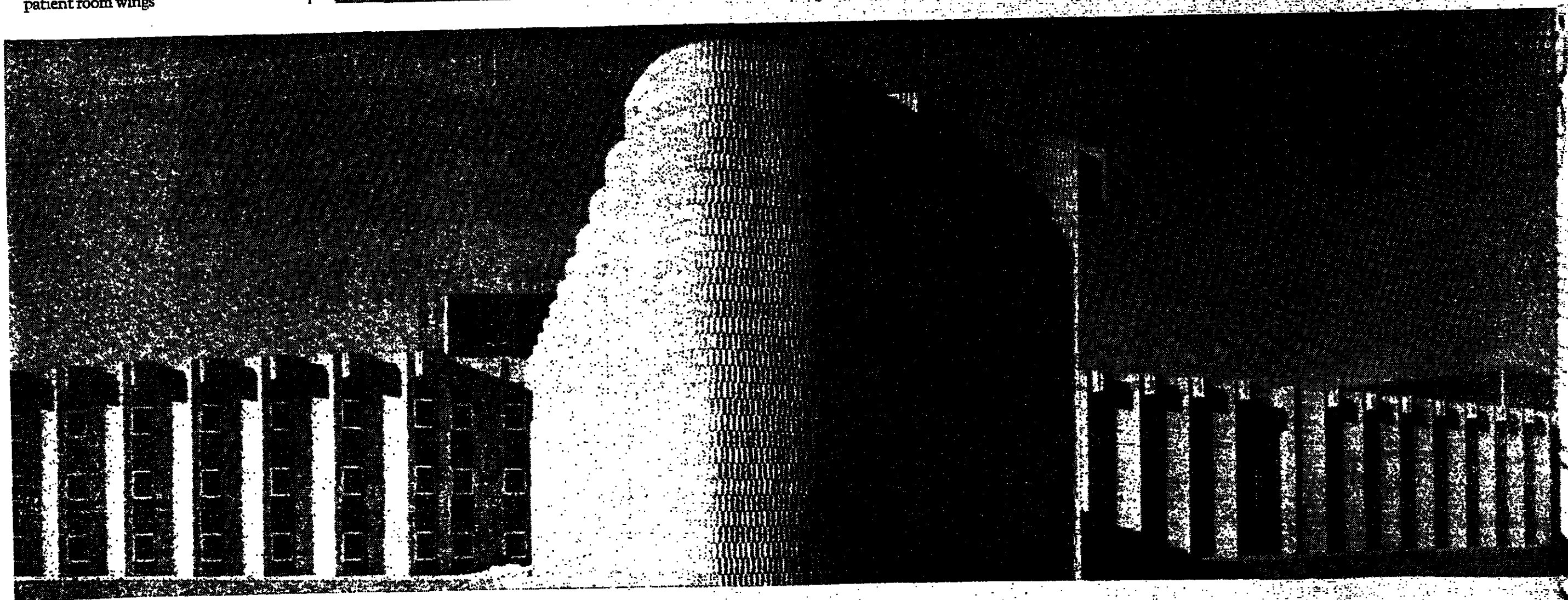
The health care delivery systems we help create are planned with a sensitivity to local needs and are based on a wealth of hospital experience.

It has been our privilege to bring this experience and knowledge to the King Faisal Medical City.



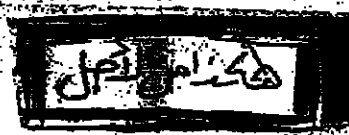
Main hospital building, patient room wings

Cutting stone for exterior facade

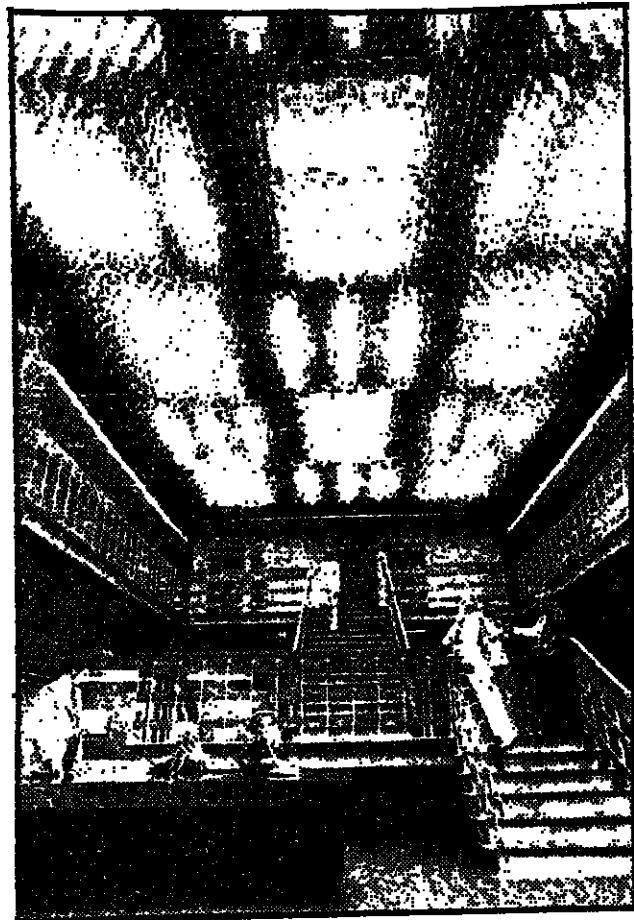


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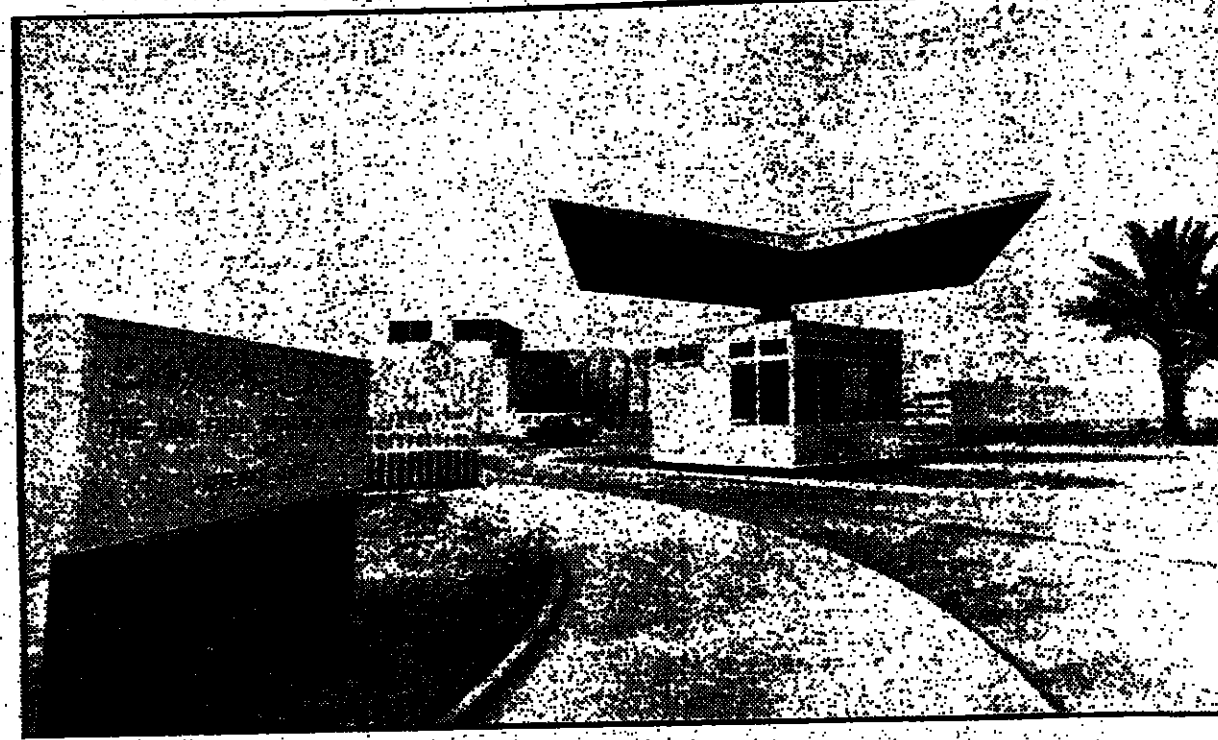
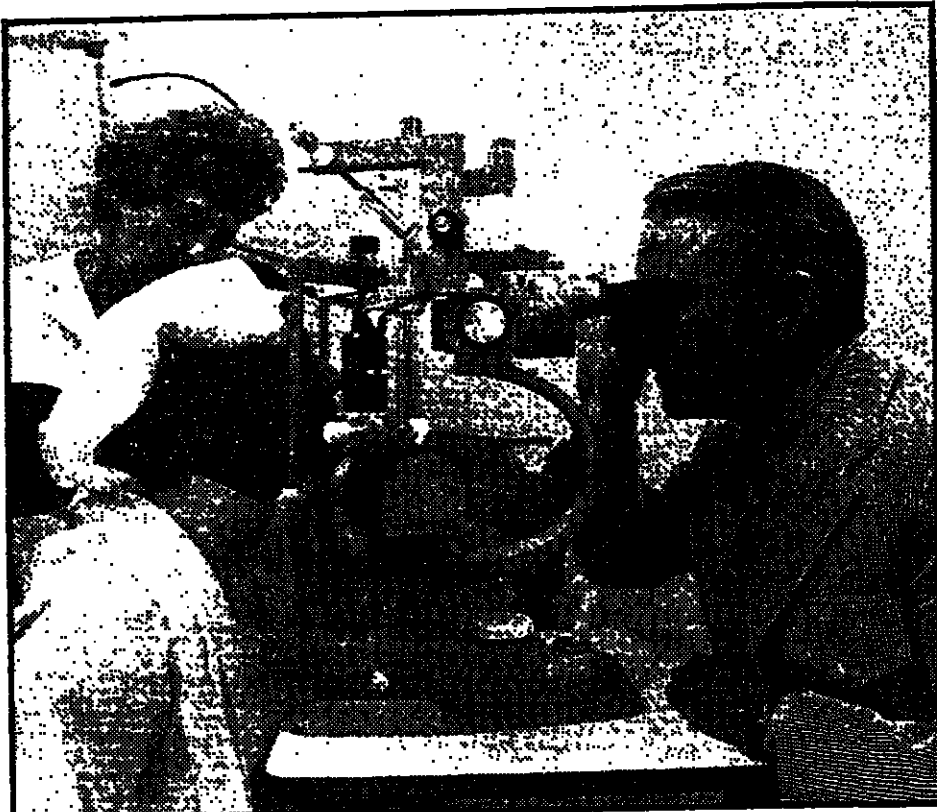


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Patients' progress: the hospital can provide transport (right) and, once through the main entrance (far right, below) and office reception area (left) there is a visit to central reception (far right, above) and examination (below). At right (below) and centre, the external styling.

Leading consultants for the project include: — A. E. Beer and Partners, Right Street, Croydon, London (consulting structural engineers); Davis, Belfield and Everest, Golden Square, London (chartered quantity surveyors); Hospital Design Partnership, Bloomsbury Square, London (consulting architects); Parsons Brown and Newton, Greencoat Place, London (consulting engineers); Scientific Control Systems, Berners Street, London (computer consultants).



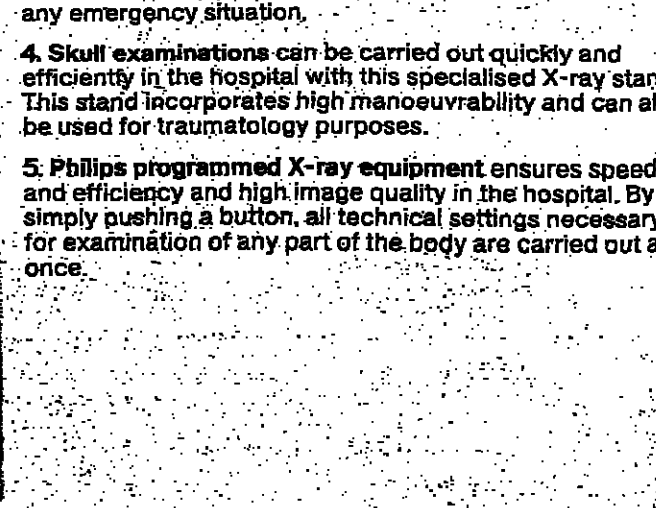
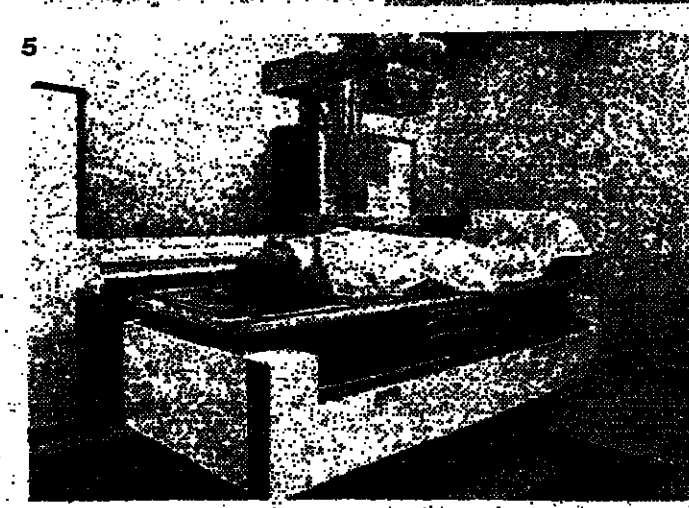
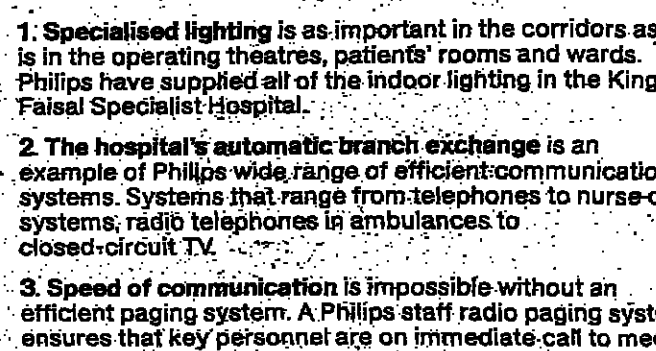
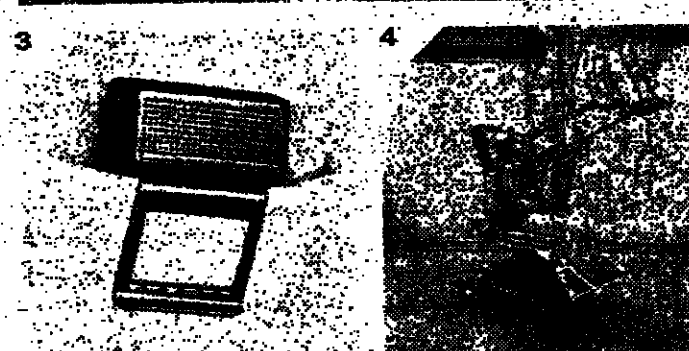
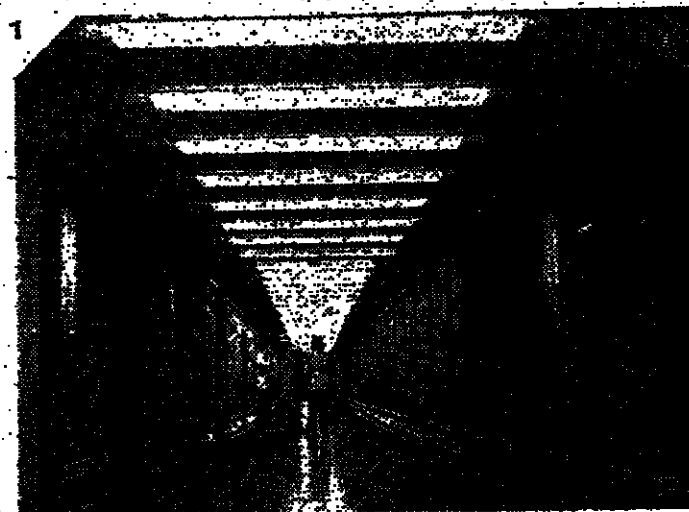
The King Faisal Specialist Hospital chose Philips to work by. And Philips to work with.

The King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Riyadh chose Philips as co-contractors for the complete electrical services... to supply the light to work by, and the equipment to work with. Lighting plays a critical role in any hospital. Philips supplied all the indoor and outdoor lighting.

Speed of communication is vital when life is at stake. Philips supplied the hospital's private automatic branch exchange and a staff radio paging system. The hospital relies entirely on Philips diagnostic X-ray equipment in examination rooms, operating theatres, wards and the

dental department. Philips have also been chosen to supply the equipment for the radiation therapy department. Both mobile and static equipment incorporates advanced techniques developed by Philips. These techniques give doctors and hospital staff the information

and the resources they need in order to work more quickly and more effectively. Philips are proud of the opportunity to have contributed to the health of the people of Saudi Arabia... and to the health of the people of the world.



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